

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 428.]

[LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.

EDUCATION FOR YOUNG LADIES.
King-street, Leicester.

THE MISSES MIALI, whose School has been established for upwards of Ten Years, will have **VACANCIES FOR BOARDERS**, after the Christmas Vacation. The advantages enjoyed by their Pupils are of a superior order, affording them a liberal and solid education; the strictest attention being paid to the formation of their character, and to their moral and religious training. The course of instruction pursued in this Establishment is based upon the principle of natural and careful cultivation, rather than of constrained exertion—of developing the characteristic capabilities of the children under their care, rendering their studies a pleasure rather than a task.

TERMS, THIRTY-FIVE GUINEAS PER ANNUM.

The best masters are engaged for French, German, Drawing, Music, Singing, and Deportment.

References:—Rev. G. Legge, LL.D., Rev. J. P. Mursell, and Rev. J. Smedmore, Leicester; Rev. J. Sutcliffe, Manchester; Mr. Sunderland, Ashton-under-Lyne; and their Brothers, Rev. J. G. Miall, Bradford, Rev. G. R. Miall, Ullesthorpe, and E. Miall, M.P., Editor of the *Nonconformist*, Sydenham Park. School will re-open on the 26th inst.

GREEN HILL, DERBY.—The Young Ladies of **MISS GRAFFTEY'S ESTABLISHMENT** will RESUME their Studies on **TUESDAY**, the 17th inst.

PELICAN HOUSE, PECKHAM.

MISS FLETCHER begs to inform her Friends that her Pupils will RE-ASSEMBLE on Thursday, the 26th inst.

14, KING EDWARD'S ROAD, SOUTH HACKNEY.

THE MISSES SAUNDERS (late of Park House, Mife-end) beg to inform their friends that their Pupils will re-assemble on Wednesday, Jan. 18th. Prospectuses, with references of the highest respectability, may be obtained on application as above.

HOME EDUCATION FOR YOUNG LADIES, Six Guineas per Quarter. In this establishment, four miles from town, instruction includes English, French, music, drawing, painting, dancing, writing, arithmetic, plain and fancy needlework; books, drawing materials, and laundress included. Food unlimited, and best quality. The premises are spacious and airy, possessing every requisite for health, comfort, and recreation. Prospectuses at Mr. BARLING'S, 17, Newington-cumseyway.

6, MORNINGTON-CRESCENT, REGENT'S PARK.

THE MISSES SMITH inform their friends that their SCHOOL for the Board and Education of a limited number of Young Ladies will RE-OPEN on Friday, January 27th, 1854.

Reference may be made to the following Ministers and Gentlemen:—Revs. J. Leitch, D.D., J. C. Harrison, Camden-town, W. S. Edwards, City-road Chapel, Alfred Hone, Castle Donington, J. Buckpit, Great Torrington, Thomas James, Yelvertoft, Northamptonshire, Edwin Harrison, M.A., Domestic Chaplain to the Duchess of St. Albans, J. G. Slight, M.A., Salford, H. Linthwaite, M.A., West Walton, T. Ramsbotham, M.A., Old Vicarage, Wakefield; H. Smith, Esq., Gunton Park, Norwich; Vincent Smith, Esq., 5, Stone-buildings, Lincoln's-inn; G. Lancashire, Esq., Cavendish House; and to other parents of pupils.

AMERSHAM, BUCKS.

AT MISS COX'S ESTABLISHMENT

Young Ladies are boarded, and instructed in the French Language, Drawing, and the various branches of a solid English Education, at 35 Guineas per annum. Pupils under 9 years of age, at 30 Guineas per annum; Laundress, 3 Guineas. The following accomplishments are extras, viz., the German language and Music, each 4 Guineas per annum (the latter, if taught by the Master, 6 Guineas); Singing, 2 Guineas per annum. Instruction on the Harp or Concertina, charged by the Lesson. In this Establishment the French and German Languages are taught by Native Professors. There is daily communication to and from London by omnibus, from the Walford station, on the London and North Western Railway.

MISS COX will be happy to forward a prospectus on application, and furnish any additional information that may be desired. References are kindly permitted to the Rev. W. A. Solter, and to E. West, Esq., Amersham, and to the parents of Pupils now at School.

MISS COX will remain at No. 11, Queen-square, Bloomsbury, London, from the 18th to the 17th instant.

EDUCATION.

OVER HALL, MIRFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

MRS. ELLIS DAWSON begs to announce that her Establishment will RE-OPEN on Thursday, the 4th of February.

Over Hall is situated in a very healthy locality, and its internal arrangements combine the comforts of Home with the advantages of a well-conducted Finishing School.

Religious training is systematically united with intellectual culture.

Terms—Thirty and Forty Guineas per annum.

Reference is kindly permitted to the Rev. C. H. Bateman, Hopton, Mirfield; Rev. B. B. Haigh, Bramham College; W. Williams, Esq., Huddersfield; T. K. Faulls, Esq., Huddersfield College; John Stancliffe, Esq., Macclesfield; and S. Dawson, Esq., Wakefield.

Prospectuses forwarded on application.

THE MIDLAND SCHOOL, near

Coventry, for Gentlemen, is conducted on rational and Christian principles. For a full prospectus, apply to Mr. WYLES,

A VILLAGE PASTOR, who is Educating his Sons, has **VACANCIES** in his Establishment for TWO PUPILS, who would, in all respects, be treated as the members of his family.—Address, M., Post-office, Barkway, Herts, vid Royston.

SCIENTIFIC and COMMERCIAL EDUCATION, 25 to 30 Guineas. No Extras. Number limited. Meals with the Principal. Separate Beds. Visiting Masters. Prospectuses of Alpha, 7, New Dorset-place, Clapham-road, near London.

GUILDFORD HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM.

MR. F. EWEN'S BOARDING SCHOOL for a limited number of **YOUNG GENTLEMEN** will RE-OPEN on **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27th**.

Terms and References on application.

THE WEST OF ENGLAND DISSENTERS' PROPRIETARY SCHOOL, TAUNTON, will Re-open, after the Christmas vacation, on Tuesday, 24th of January 1854.

President—T. Thompson, Esq., Poundsford Park, Taunton.

Vice-Presidents—R. Ash, Esq., W. D. Wills, Esq., and H. O. Wills, Esq., Bristol.

Treasurer—S. Pollard, Esq., Taunton.

Honorary Secretaries—The Rev. H. Addiscott, and the Rev. H. Quick, Taunton.

All applications for Terms, and the admission of Pupils, to be made to the Rev. J. S. Underwood, Corresponding Secretary, Taunton.

BOARDING SCHOOL, COLCHESTER.

Conducted by Mr. ANDREW.

Terms, Twenty-five Pounds per Annum.

Satisfactory References given and requested.

WANTED, an ASSISTANT for the English Department. He must be competent to teach Drawing. West-street, Colchester, 21st December.

PORTLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL, PLYMOUTH.

Conducted by Mr. R. F. WEYMOUTH, M.A. (London), M.R.A.S., &c., &c.

THE higher Mathematical Classes receive the benefit of the superintendence and lectures of the

REV. PROFESSOR NEWTH, M.A., Fellow of University College, London, author of "Elements of Statics," &c.

The course of studies pursued is suitable, as preparatory either for a college course, or for professional or commercial life.

The house is very healthily situated in the highest part of the town, and close to the northern outskirts, but at a convenient distance for sea-bathing.

COLLEGE HOUSE ACADEMY, SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

ESTABLISHED FORTY-SIX YEARS.

Conducted by Mr. M. THOMSON.

THE COURSE comprises the Classics, French, and the usual branches of an English Education.

Terms (washing included), 25 to 30 Guineas per annum.

References:—The Hon. Mr. Justice Talfourd, Rev. J. H. Hinton, M.A., Rev. J. Sherman, Rev. H. Allon, and Rev. Dr. Harris, New College, St. John's-wood.

Prospectuses forwarded on application.

The term commences on Wednesday, January 18, 1854.

AN ASSISTANT WANTED.

ALDERLEY EDGE.

BEECHFIELD SCHOOL, Conducted by

H. M. KEYWORTH, M.A., assisted by Masters from Manchester, will re-open on Wednesday, January 25th.

Alderley is situated in one of the most pleasant parts of Cheshire, on the London and North Western Railway, fourteen miles from Manchester. The neighbourhood is agricultural, and altogether removed from manufactures of any kind, and is noted for its agreeableness and salubrity. The arrangements of the house have been made expressly with a view to the comfort and convenience of a select School. Besides a large garden, a playground and meadow for the use of the pupils are attached. Terms, from 45 to 50 Guineas.

References.—Rev. Dr. Halley, Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Manchester; Rev. J. Sherman, London.

BIRMINGHAM SCHOLASTIC INSTITUTION FOR

THE SONS OF MINISTERS.

THE ANNUAL EXAMINATION of the

Pupils was this year conducted by J. B. MELSON, Esq., M.D., &c., Trinity College, Cambridge; the Rev. CHARLES VINCE; GEORGE WALLIS, Esq., Head Master of the School of Design; and the Rev. FRANCIS WATTS, M.A., Theological Professor at Spring-hill College; a copy of whose Testimonials will be forwarded to any Person requesting it.

The object of this Society is to assist Ministers of limited income in the Education of their Sons.

The Sixth Rule provides—

"That the Parents or Friends of every Boy admitted into the School shall contribute to the funds of the Institution a minimum charge of Ten Guineas per annum, payable half-yearly in advance."

The School is founded on the most liberal basis, and it contains at the present time Pupils from seven different Denominations.

The next Session will commence on January 30, 1854.

Applications for admission should be made to the Rev. T. H. Morgan, Shireland, Smethwick, Birmingham.

N.B.—A FEW VACANCIES for Private Pupils.

ENGLISH, FRENCH, and CLASSICAL

ACADEMY, NEWMARKET, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.—

Conducted by JOHN SWINDELL.—Mr. S. has the honour to state that he has conducted an Academy for Young Gentlemen for upwards of Twenty-five Years, and that numbers of his pupils are filling professional and commercial situations of high respectability and importance.—Apply for Prospectus, &c.

An advantageous opening for a Pupil Teacher.

WEST OF ENGLAND DISSENTERS' PROPRIETARY SCHOOL, TAUNTON.

Principal, the Rev. THOMAS CLARKE, M.A. London.

ASSISTANT MASTERS are required

for the Classical and Commercial departments, and for the Physical Sciences. A writing-master is also required.—Testimonials as to scholastic ability and Christian character to be forwarded to the Rev. J. S. Underwood, Taunton, on or before the 17th inst. All applicants must belong to the Independent denomination.

MILL-HILL-SCHOOL, Hendon, Middlesex.

Head Master, Rev. PHILIP SMITH, B.A.

Applications for the admission of pupils, and for preliminary information, may be made to the Head Master, or to the Secretary.

The first session of 1854 will commence on Monday, January 30.

By order of the Committee, ALGERNON WELLS, Secretary.

Old Jewry-chambers.

EDUCATION.—SABBATH SPENT

with the FAMILY.—Parents and Guardians, who feel the importance of a Sabbath re-union beneath the paternal roof, and who are yet anxious their sons should reap the benefits of a

Boarding-school education, have the opportunity of placing them at a highly respectable Classical and Commercial Academy, near Clapham (one of the healthiest suburbs of London), as weekly, Monthly, or Quarterly Boarders. The Pupils leave the establishment for home on Saturday afternoon, and return on Monday morning; thus fostering those home influences and associations which operate so beneficially in after life. From the number of resident pupils being limited to Twelve, a Separate Bed, Careful, Religious, and Moral Training, with other domestic and educational advantages, are offered.

Terms, to include a first-rate English Mercantile and Scientific Education, French, Drawing, Callisthenics, Laundress, Use of Books, Yearly Boarders, Thirty Guineas per annum.

The Principal feels the impossibility of entering fully into the privileges of the Pupils, but will forward a detailed Prospectus, post-free, on application to ALPHA, 7, New Dorset-place, Clapham-road.

BOARD AND RESIDENCE.—A Lady,

or Two Sisters, can be received as BOARDERS in a select LADIES' SCHOOL, a short distance from town, and accessible by railway. Terms, 30 Guineas per Annum; or two sisters occupying the same bed-room, 55 Guineas. The house is large, and has a good garden attached; the locality healthy, and the country attractive. References given and required.—Address, B. C. 19, Shoreditch, London.

COCKERELL & CO'S. BEST COALS ONLY.

REVOLUTION in LITHOGRAPHY.—

MACLURE, MACDONALD, and MACGREGOR, are the SOLE PATENTERS of the SELF-ACTING LITHOGRAPHIC MACHINES—applicable to all kinds of Lithographic Printing.

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SON, comprising every description of English and Foreign Fancy Goods, Dressing and Writing Cases, Workboxes Jewellery, Clocks, Watches, Bronzes, China, Glass, Alabaster, Papier Maché, and French Stationery at Paris prices, Bibles, Prayer-books, and thousands of articles in blouterie and vertu.—FUTVOYE and Co., 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

FUTVOYE'S EIGHT-DAY ROUND

BRASS DIALS, 14s. 6d. each, warranted; also an immense variety of French Clocks, under shades, from £3 2s. each, of the newest and most elegant designs.—FUTVOYE and Co., 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street, and 24, Rue de Rivoli, Paris.

FUTVOYE'S £3 3s. LADIES' ROSE.

WOOD DRESSING-CASES, with Jewel Drawers and Solid Silver Top Bottles.—An immense variety of Writing and Dressing-Cases, Despatch Boxes, Souffettes, Work-boxes, filled Reticles, and every description of Fancy Cabinet and Leather Goods.—154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

FUTVOYE'S £4 4s. GOLD WATCHES,

four holes jewelled, horizontal escapement, warranted.—Silver Watches, £2 10s. Solid Gold Chains, of their own manufacture, sold at per ounce, and the fashion only charged. Every description of Jewellery taken in exchange, or purchased for cash.—154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

FUTVOYE'S ROYAL PATENT ROTARY

CIRCULAR GAME.—Applicable to Racing, Hunting, and other games, allowed to be the most interesting amusement yet produced; may be played by two, or any larger number of persons. Also, the ordinary Race Boards, from 1s. to £7 7s.—FUTVOYE, Patentee and Manufacturer, 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

COALS, 42s. Best.—R. S. DIXON and

SON having Colliers which lower their masts and deliver alongside their Wharf, they SUPPLY the BEST COALS direct from the Ship.—Providence Wharf, Belvidere-road, Lambeth.

SARL'S ARGENTINE SILVER PLATE.

IS THE BEST SUBSTITUTE FOR SOLID SILVER.

MANUFACTORY, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House), LONDON.

THIS unrivalled production continues to give the same satisfaction as when first introduced by SARL and SONS, ten years ago. From its intrinsic value, and brilliant appearance, it far surpasses all other substitutes for solid Silver. A new and magnificent stock has just been completed for the present season, to which public inspection is respectfully invited. It comprises SPOONS and FORKS, CORNER DISHES and COVERS, DISH COVERS, EPERGNES and CANDELABRAS with Beautiful Figures and Classical Designs, TEA and COFFEE EQUIPAGES, CRUET FRAMES, CAKE BASKETS, CANDLESTICKS, SALVERS, TEA TRAYS, DECANTER STANDS, LIQUEUR FRAMES, TEA URNS and KETTLES, SOUP and SAUCE TUREENS, with every article requisite for the Dinner, Tea, or Breakfast Service. Pamphlets, containing drawings and prices of all the articles, gratis, and sent postage free to all parts of the kingdom. Any article may be had separately as a sample.

SOLE INVENTORS AND MANUFACTURERS,

SARL and SONS, 18, POULTRY,

(Near the MANSION HOUSE), LONDON.

GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.

SARL and SONS, WATCH MANUFACTURERS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House), invite attention to their new and very extensive STOCK of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES. The patterns are of the latest style, and the movements of the most highly-finished description. Every make can be had. The following prices will convey an outline of the Stock, combining economy with quality:—

	Gold Cases and Dials.	Silver Cases.
Watches of the Horizontal make, jewelled in four holes, main-taining power, 1st size.....	£ 10 0	2 18 0
Ditto, 2nd size.....	7 10 0	3 3 0
Ditto, 3rd size.....	8 10 0	3 10 0
Patent lever movements, detached escapements, jewelled in four or six holes, 2nd size.....	9 9 0	3 18 0
Ditto, with the flat, fashionable style, with the most highly-finished movements, jewelled in ten extra holes, 3rd size.....	14 14 0	5 18 0

A written warranty for accurate performance is given with every watch, and a twelvemonth's trial allowed. A very extensive and splendid assortment of fine gold neck-chains; charged according to the weight of sovereigns.

A pamphlet containing a list of the prices of the various articles in gold and silver, may be had gratis.—Address,

SARL and SONS, 18, POULTRY,
(Near the MANSION HOUSE) LONDON.

THE COMMITTEE of the "ELIZABETH

FRY REFUGE submit to the kind attention of the benevolent, the following brief statement of its object, origin, and management. The strong claims which this Institution presents to the philanthropist, the patriot, and the Christian, for their co-operation and support, lead them to expect that this appeal will meet with a ready and cheerful response from all who are desirous of checking the progress of crime, and of promoting the cause of religion and virtue.

The object which this Institution seeks to accomplish is to reclaim from a vicious course of life, and to restore to rectitude and the confidence of society, those unhappy females who having made themselves amenable to the laws of this country, have become the inmates of a goal—an undertaking of a difficult and responsible character, yet not impracticable. The destitute and forlorn condition in which this class of our fellow-creatures is placed when cast into the streets, after the prison doors have closed upon them, without character, friends, food, or shelter, is not only painful and distressing to themselves, but also most injurious to the interests of the community in general; the good impressions they may have received during imprisonment are soon effaced, and they are too often left to relapse into crime. This fearful state is suitably met by an immediate reception into an Asylum, where such who are willing to reform may be instructed and assisted in their endeavours to lead an amended life, and where their religious and moral welfare may be the subject of a constant and careful supervision. Such is the object of the "Elizabeth Fry Refuge;" it offers a temporary shelter between the gate of the prison and the establishment of the individual in the social position she had previously forfeited.

Its origin and designation arose from the active efforts of several of the warm admirers and attached friends of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Fry, to whose zealous, untiring, and successful exertions, society is largely indebted for many important improvements in goal discipline, and the establishment of a system of personal visitation amongst female prisoners by Christian visitors of their own sex. In the year 1846, they convened a public meeting at the Mansion House, in London, the Lord Mayor being Chairman, when it was resolved to found and endow an Asylum, as a standing memorial to the name and character of that distinguished lady, and thus to further the benevolent objects to which her useful life had been devoted. Many liberal subscriptions were obtained by the Committee then appointed, which enabled them to place £6,500 in the public funds as a permanent stock. In 1849, the lease of a large house and premises at Hackney was purchased, and forthwith opened, which, with the amount in stock, are now vested in trustees. The present plan is much smaller than was at first suggested, but various occurrences have prevented the prosecution of the original design. The Committee, however, are quite prepared to carry out to the fullest extent the benefits proposed by this Institution, should a larger building be required, and sufficient funds obtained.

Its general management is under the control of the Trustees, and of a Committee of Gentlemen, chosen at the Annual Meeting of the members. Its internal arrangements and more immediate object is confided to, and carried out by, the Committee of the British Ladies' Society for Promoting the Reformation of Female Prisoners, established by Mrs. Fry. The House Committee meet weekly at the Refuge. Cases are admitted on the recommendation of either the ladies who visit the prisons, the sheriffs, magistrates, or the goal chaplains, and, if deemed to be suitable and hopeful objects, are at once received. The period for retaining them depends mainly on their individual position, and the arranging for their future destination. During their stay they are chiefly occupied in being taught the ordinary elements of school education, plain needlework, and the various domestic duties, so that they may be fitted for taking useful stations in life; their religious instruction is provided for, at present, on the Sabbath, by means of a City Missionary, who conducts service there in the morning; in the afternoon a member of the Committee reads the Scriptures. Family worship is conducted by the Matron, morning and evening daily, and members of the House Committee are in the practice of frequently reading with the inmates; besides which they have the advantage of the periodical services of a clergyman of the Church of England. The Committee would, indeed, prefer their attending public worship; but experience proves it is desirable to avoid subjecting such persons to public remark, or to convey them through a public thoroughfare.

The results already achieved have proved to the Committee that much good is actually effected, and much evil prevented; and they refer, with considerable satisfaction, to each of their Annual Reports for the evidences to the fact. Nearly four hundred cases, varying in ages from twelve to thirty-five, have been admitted, most of whom have been either provided with situations, restored to their friends, or sent, after a probationary term, to other Asylums; and it is gratifying to state, that comparatively but very few instances of disappointment have occurred. The immense value of such a temporary Refuge can hardly be estimated or appreciated, except by those who labour in the work of visiting prisons; and even the Committee themselves are not always permitted to witness the success of their efforts. Human agency alone cannot effect a real reformation of the heart, and it requires a long period to establish and confirm a reformed habit of mind; it is, therefore, in other refuges to which they may have been removed, in the homes of their families, or on the shores of other lands, that the benefits derived from this Asylum will eventually be seen; and how pleasing the reflection, that from its door no penitent outcast from the prison is turned away; it receives every discharged prisoner, of any age, who appears likely to derive benefit from its shelter, and no exclusive rules curtail or cramp its usefulness. The spirit of the Institution is universal, like hers whose name it bears, and in humble imitation of Him who receives all who come to him in faith and penitence.

Its financial position, however, is one which deserves serious attention, and as the design of this address is to present the claims of this Institution to those who have not hitherto favoured it with their support, the Committee beg to state at once, without reserve, that the help of the benevolent is indispensable, and immediately required; the current expenses of the establishment, though with the utmost economy, unavoidably exceed £600 yearly, to meet which the annual subscriptions are scarcely £150, the dividends, &c., £230; consequently requiring more than £200 additional every year to meet its expenditure. To reduce the ordinary outlay would be impossible, without greatly restricting the benefits of the Refuge, and to calculate on the fluctuating source of casual donations would be too imprudent. To all those, therefore, who feel the necessity of so excellent an institution as the "Elizabeth Fry Refuge" being well sustained, the Committee most earnestly appeal, and trust they will promptly come forward and kindly co-operate in the undertaking by liberal annual subscriptions or donations, and also of warmly commending its

claims in the circle of their friends, so that its means of support may be worthy of its object, and its usefulness remain undiminished. Let it be considered, too, that this is not in any way a local institution, but is truly national, and requires only that the British public should deem it their peculiar province to provide for it, corresponding to its character, to render it an honour and a blessing to the nation.

Subscriptions received by the Treasurer, Joseph Gurney Barclay, Esq.; at the bankers, Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Tritton, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; also by Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Gurney and Co., Norwich, Yarmouth, Halesworth, Lynn, Wisbeach, and Fakenham; Messrs. W. and F. G. Cash, 5, Bishopsgate-street; Messrs. Hatchards, 187, Piccadilly; Messrs. Nisbet and Co., 21, Berners-street, Oxford-street; the Office of the *Record*; and by the Secretary, Mr. Charles Gordelie, 92, Fenchurch-street, to whom post-office money orders may be made payable. Small sums may be sent in postage stamps. Signed on behalf of the Committee,

CHARLES GORDELIE, Secretary.

London, 92, Fenchurch-street.

DEACON'S COFFEE and DINING

HOUSE, 3, WALBROOK, CITY, opposite the Church-door. Established 1812. Hot Joints from 12 to 5. Chops, Steaks, Fish, &c. Wines, Spirits, &c. Breakfast ready at 8. Cup of Coffee or Tea, 3d. Provincial papers from every county filed; also the *Nonconformist*, *Banner*, *Watchman*, *Wesleyan Times*, *London Gazette*, *Mining and Railway Papers*, *Times*, *Australian*, *American*, *Ceylon*, *Cape*, *West India*, &c.; for which, and all other papers, Advertisements are received, at the Office, Bond-court, Walbrook, by Samuel Deacon.

ESTABLISHED 1726.

CHAPLIN and LAMBERT, TALLOW Melters, Candle Manufacturers, Oil and Italian Warehousemen, 89 and 90, LEATHER-LANE, HOLBORN, beg to suggest to their numerous friends and others who are about to lay in their Winter's stock, that every article supplied at their Establishment is of first-rate quality, and charged at the lowest remunerative price.

A List of Articles, with prices annexed, sent post free on application.

Orders with remittances promptly executed, and delivered at any of the Metropolitan Railway Stations.

C. and L. particularly recommend their TOWN TALLOW MADE CANDLES.

Price's and Palmer's Composite and Metallic Candles at manufacturer's prices.

Purchasers of C. and L.'s celebrated Stamped Soaps will have the full amount of benefit accruing from the repeal of the duty.

THE BUDGET OF 1853.

IN strict conformity with the REDUCTION of the TEA DUTY, A. HIND has constructed his Scale of Prices, and invites public attention to the following quotation:—

Rich PEKOE LAPSANG SOUCHONG, such as E. I. Company used to bring over, 3s. 8d. per lb.

High-scented and Rich-flavoured Flowery ASSAM, reduced from 4s. 4d. to 4s. per lb.

Our CHOICE MIXTURE of the Best Black and Green Teas, comprising all the excellences of the richest and rarest productions of China and Assam, judiciously blended, 4s. per lb.

OUCHAIN YOUNG HYSON, HYSON, and PEARL GUNPOWDER, 5s. 8d., 5s., 4s. 4d., 4s., 3s. 8d., and 3s. 4d. per lb.

All these are of the prime quality, and most delicious flavour. Lower qualities at proportionally reduced prices.

Choice MOCHA COFFEE, rich and mellow, of great strength 1s. 4d. per lb.

Very excellent PLANTATION CEYLON, packed in Tin Canisters, fresh and warm from the Mill, 1s. per lb.

HIND'S GREAT CENTRAL TEA ESTABLISHMENT, corner of NORTH-STREET, KING'S-CROSS (the third turning from the Great Northern Terminus, City side).

Wholesale Depot for HIND'S CELEBRATED ONE SHILLING PARISHAN SAUCE.

* P. O. Orders to be made payable to ANDREW HIND, at the Office, King's-cross.

SIR WILLIAM BURNETT'S PATENTS.

IN the year 1838 Patents were granted to Sir William Burnett, M.D., F.R.S., Director-General of the Medical Department of the Royal Navy, for the use of Chloride of Zinc, as applied to the preservation of Timber, Canvas, Cordage, Cotton, Woollen, and other articles, from Rot, Mildew, Moth, &c.; and in 1852, her Majesty was pleased to grant an extension for seven years. Parties using Chloride of Zinc for any such purposes must purchase the same from the Proprietors of the Patents, at their Office, No. 18, Cannon-street, London-bridge; and any person using it without license will be proceeded against for infringement of their Patents.

N.B.—The Prize Medal of 1851 was awarded by the Royal Commissioners for Sir William Burnett's Patent.

SIR WILLIAM BURNETT'S DISINFECTING FLUID.

THE great and invariable success of Sir William Burnett's Patent Solution, in Preserving Timber, &c., from Rot, and in arresting the Decomposition of Animal and Vegetable Matters, soon led to its general application as an Anti-septic or Disinfecting Agent; and, for the last eight years, it has been in general use, with a success and public benefit truly marvellous, for the Disinfection of Sick Rooms, Clothing, Linen, &c.; the Prevention of Contagion; the Purification of Bilge-water and Ships' Holds, Cesspools, Drains, Water-closets, Stables, Dog-kennels, &c.

It is now only necessary to caution the public against an imitation which, for the last month or two, has been advertised as an "IMPROVED CHLORIDE OF ZINC," and even recommended by selections from Sir William Burnett's own Testimonials.

Sir William Burnett's Disinfecting Fluid is sold by all Chemists and Druggists, and at No. 18, Cannon-street, London-bridge.

A LECTURE HALL or CHAPEL, near or in the City, WANTED, on moderate terms.—Address, Z., care of Wm. Freeman, 69, Fleet-street.

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

PROTESTANT DISSENT AS REFLECTED BY THE CENSUS.

OUR readers have had time, since the issue of our last Number, to glance over the more important of the results brought out by the Census Report on Religious Worship in England and Wales. Our abridgement of that invaluable volume has somewhat aided them, we hope, in forming their deductions. But, after all, we are satisfied that comparatively few have either leisure or inclination to digest the mass of materials thus placed before them, and that we cannot render a more acceptable service than by presenting, in a few articles, cast in a readable form, some of the salient points of the inquiry just concluded. We propose, therefore, to-day, to take a survey of the Protestant Dissenters of all denominations.

The varieties of religious belief coming under the above general designation, are not nearly so great as many have been apt to imagine. With one or two exceptions so small as scarcely to merit record, the great bulk of the Protestant Dissenting denominations agree in the main with the exposition of doctrinal faith embodied in the Articles of the Church of England, the principal differences which obtain amongst them being such only as are found equally marked in the Establishment itself—namely, those which arise out of a Calvinistic or Armenian interpretation of the same substantial verities of the Gospel. The Independents, it is true, are a compact body—not because they universally adhere to one religious creed, but because they have not deemed it worth their while to found separate organisations upon their minor differences. The Baptists branch off into five varieties, and the Methodists into nine; but, excepting the distinction to which we have just alluded, these varieties represent nothing more than slight differences on matters of discipline. The whole of these denominations, comprising nineteen-twentieths of the Protestant Dissenters, mutually recognise each other's Christianity, and gladly interchange pulpit services with each other.

The Protestant Dissenters, down to a very recent period, have been treated by Church and State authorities, as if they were a minority in what is called "the religious world," so small as to be unworthy of deference, and almost of notice. How far this treatment has been justified by what they are, and what they are doing, Mr. Mann's impartial report of them will help us to ascertain.

The whole population of England and Wales is given by the census of 1851, as amounting to 17,927,609 souls. Of these, 8,294,240, are described as urban, or resident in towns; and 9,633,369 as dwelling in rural parishes. It is calculated, that sufficient accommodation for

religious worship for this entire population will have been provided when sittings, *properly distributed*, have been found for 10,308,913 persons, or 58 per cent. of the whole. It appears that the actual provision made, does not fall far short of the required sum—there being 10,212,563, or only 185,451 sittings deficient. But this provision is not equally distributed—for, whilst the urban population possess but 3,814,215 sittings, or 45 instead of 58 per cent. on the population, the rural parishes have 6,398,348 sittings, or 66·5 per cent., being 8·5 per cent. above their utmost need. The consequence is, that not more than 8,753,279 sittings are really available—that is, within reach of those who can make use of them. Such, then, in few words, is the amount of religious provision, as compared with the whole people of England and Wales, furnished by all denominations. Let us now see in what position the Church Establishment, and the Protestant Dissenters respectively, stand to this result.

The number of edifices in which the members of the Church of England worship, are 14,077, of which only 223 are described as "not separate buildings." Those belonging to Protestant Dissenters are 19,497, of which, however, 3,013, are to be regarded as preaching rooms only, leaving 16,484 distinct chapels. Of the churches provided for the Establishment, there were in existence previously to 1801, not fewer than 9,667, whilst at the same period, the places of worship erected by Protestant Dissenters were only 3,116. During the decennial interval between 1801 and 1811, the Church of England added but 55 to the number of its sacred edifices—Dissenters added to theirs, 1,131. From 1811 to 1821 this disparity in the rate of progress somewhat increased—there were built 97 churches, and 1,871 Dissenting chapels. The next decade still exhibits the superior activity of the despised sects—the numbers being, new churches, 276, chapels, 2,794. Churchmen were more zealous between 1831 and 1841—but they erected only 667 places of worship, against 3,980 provided by Dissenters. The last period, unless there be some printer's error in the return, exhibits results as gratifying as they are extraordinary—for whereas, the Church of England built no less than 1,197 new places, the Dissenters erected 4,188. The period at which 2,118 churches, and 2,247 chapels were built, is left unstated.

Towards the supply of the 10,398,913 sittings required for the accommodation of the entire people of England and Wales, the Established Church has provided the gross number of 5,317,915, of which, however, there are available but 5,296,242, or 29·6 per cent. on the whole population. The Protestant Dissenters furnish 4,657,422 sittings, or 26 per cent. on the whole population. Of the church accommodation provided for Protestant worshippers, therefore, the Dissenters supply within about 3 per cent. of one-half. This, however, does not fully represent the respective strength of these two bodies. In order to do this, we must introduce the element of attendances. It appears that out of 8,522,066 morning sittings available, there were occupied on the Census Sunday, by members of the Church of England, 2,371,742, and by Protestant Dissenters 1,785,349; of the afternoon sittings available, amounting to 6,192,061, Churchmen filled 1,764,641, and Dissenters 1,180,306; while of the 5,712,670 sittings

available in the evening, Churchmen had 803,141, and Protestant Dissenters 2,057,790. On the whole, there were 4,939,514 attendances during the day at church, and 5,023,445 at chapel. Mr. Mann calculates the available accommodation thus—out of every 1,000 sittings provided by the Church of England, 912 are accessible in the morning, 708 in the afternoon, and 327 in the evening, or an average of 649. Out of the same number of sittings supplied by Dissenters, there are 736 available in the morning, 508 in the afternoon, and 827 in the evening, averaging 690. Thus both in the amount of accommodation for Divine worship and of attendance, taking the whole Sunday into account, the Protestant Dissenters surpass the National Church.

If, now, we compare the Christian liberality of the two bodies, we shall see that Dissenters have no reason to be ashamed of the results. In the first place, it is to be borne in mind, that every farthing spent in the erection and maintenance of their religious edifices, is supplied by voluntary beneficence. So much cannot be alleged of the Church of England, most of whose edifices are kept in repair by Church-rates, and many even of those most recently erected have been largely aided by the compulsory principle, parochially applied. Taking the decennial interval between 1831 and 1841, as least liable to dispute, we estimate that Dissenters spent in the erection of new places of worship, amounting to 3,980, an average sum of 2,000*l.* each, or 796,000*l.* a year. The average expenses incident to divine worship in each of their 16,484 distinct chapels cannot be less annually than 25*l.* or 412,100*l.* in the aggregate. In addition to this, they support their own ministers, at an annual cost which can hardly be estimated at less than 1,200,000*l.* After they have done all this, at an aggregate expense of 2,408,000*l.* a year, we bring them into competition with the Church of England, in regard to the support they give to their distinctive religious societies. 241,108*l.* are annually subscribed to societies common to both bodies. The Church of England may, perhaps, subscribe more largely to these than Dissenters; and in addition, provides about 400,000*l.* a year to societies, exclusively its own. The Protestant Dissenters, besides contributing a fair share to the unsectarian societies abovementioned, subscribe 278,224*l.* to their own. All things taken into the account, we believe that they expend for the maintenance and extension of religion at home and abroad, little short of 3,000,000*l.* a year.

Several other topics are suggested by this report, for which, however, we have not space at present. Probably, the reader will concur with us in thinking that we have given enough facts for one week. Our purpose in stating those to which we have called attention is not to glorify Dissenters, but the principle on which they act. The general results of the operation of that principle, as contrasted with State provision for religious worship and teaching, we must defer illustrating to a future opportunity.

CENSUS RETURNS ON RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

PROGRESS OF RELIGIOUS OPINIONS IN ENGLAND.

Some twenty pages of the report of Mr. Horace Mann on the Census Returns for Religious Worship are devoted to a brief but interesting sketch of religious opinions in England, from the period of the introduction of Christianity under the Roman Emperors down to the Revolution of 1688, compiled

from various authorities, amongst which are mentioned Lingard's and Soames's Histories of the Anglo-Saxon Church; Sharon Turner's History of the Anglo-Saxons; Collier's Ecclesiastical History; Short's History of the Church of England; Southey's Book of the Church; and Heylin's History of the Presbyterians. It is unnecessary to summarise facts already familiar to the British public in a more elaborate form. We shall, therefore, notice only one or two of the most striking portions of the sketch.

The conversion of the Saxons under Ethelbert, by the agency of the monk Augustine and his forty coadjutors, led to the establishment of a uniform Christian faith in Great Britain, although the actual British race, inhabiting Wales and portions of contiguous counties, steadily maintained their opposition to the influence of Rome, and preserved their isolation for a very considerable time. From A.D. 681 to the present time, an interval of more than eleven centuries, Christianity, in one form or another, has maintained itself as the predominant religion of the English people. The origin of the revenues of the Established Church—a question which has been a fruitful occasion of dispute—is accounted for in a manner which harmonises with the view we have always taken:—

The funds for the support of Christianity were derived from various sources. At first they seem to have been exclusively supplied by voluntary offerings, of which the bishops had the sole disposal. Afterwards, upon the erection of a church or the foundation of a religious establishment, it became the custom—probably in imitation of a practice which appears to have prevailed in nearly every age and every country of the world—for the founder to devote a tenth of all his property to purposes of religion and charity. Tithes thus appear to have had their origin in voluntary payments, and as such they were, doubtless, very generally rendered in the early periods of Anglo-Saxon rule, when the payment was considered applicable both to the provision for religious worship and to the relief of the poor. It was not till the middle of the sixth century that tithes were demanded by the clergy of Christendom as a right; nor were they declared to be such by any general council prior to that of Lateran in 1215. In England, however, it was not long before a custom so generally adopted began to be regarded, first as a religious, and then as a legal, duty; and, accordingly, the Legislature in the tenth century recognised the obligation, and provided for its due discharge, first, by declaring that defaulters should be liable to spiritual censures, and, ultimately by enacting civil penalties for disobedience. Several minor customary payments, under the various names of *Church-shot*, *Light shot* and *Plough-alms*, seem also to have gradually acquired a legislative sanction. Monasteries and similar religious institutions, were, in general, well provided for by the endowments settled on them by their founders, and by grants and gifts continually made to them by later benefactors.

Equally interesting (from our point of view) are the following remarks upon the first connexion of Christianity with the civil power:—

Christianity among the Saxons soon became connected with the civil power. The method of its introduction led to this. The Roman missionaries uniformly made their application to the kings; and their conversion was in almost every instance found to be equivalent to the conversion of their subjects. Naturally, therefore, would the sovereign assume and exercise the right to legislate in spiritual things for those who took so readily their creed from his example, and would look upon himself as the spiritual, no less than the temporal, governor of his dominions. Accordingly, we find him exercising constant control in ecclesiastical affairs. Bishops were generally nominated, and invariably confirmed, by him. At his coronation he took an oath to employ his power in preserving Christianity. In conjunction with the clergy and the Witenagemot, he sanctioned laws for the support and regulation of the Church. Thus tithes, and various other dues, were in course of time prescribed by legislative mandate; the baptism of children was made a duty, the neglect of which was punishable by fine, and a strict observance of the Sabbath was enforced in similar manner.

The influence of Rome upon the Saxon Church, though very considerable indirectly and in matters of faith and practice—with regard to which her *dicta* were received with the utmost deference—was yet comparatively weak in matters of ecclesiastical administration and supremacy; but for nearly 150 years immediately following the Conquest, the history of Christianity in England shows an almost continual advance of the power of the clergy and the Holy See. But soon the popular feeling, as well as the Crown, began to turn against the Court of Rome and the clergy, and paved the way for the teaching of Wycliffe, the embodiment of the spirit of incipient Puritanism. His followers (soon distinguished by the name of Lollards) multiplied with great rapidity, notwithstanding that they were subjected to fierce persecution. Concurrently the opposition to the influence of Rome increased. Accordingly, we find that nearly every Parliament from the time of Wycliffe to the reign of Henry VIII. (1384 to 1509) adopted measures to resist Pontifical supremacy, and, not restricting their hostility to Rome, they even several times suggested to the sovereign, the appropriation of Church property to secular objects. There were at this time two parties in the ranks of the reformers—one desiring both political and doctrinal reformation, the other limiting their aims to merely secular changes. The refusal of the Court of Rome to sanction the divorce of Henry VIII. from Queen Catherine, raised the question as to who was the proper head of the Church, and led to the establishment of a *National Church*.

The Parliament and Convocation gave, in 1534, their answer to the question by declaring, in indefinite but comprehensive language, that the *King* was the supreme head of the Church in England. From 1534 this country, therefore, may be said to have possessed a National Church; for ever since, with the brief exception which occurred in the reign of Mary, all the civil laws by which, in England, Christianity has been established and expounded, have derived their force entirely from the sanction of the native Government of the State, apart from any, the slightest, interference of a foreign Power.

The Articles of Faith, passed by the Convocation in 1536, and adopted by the King, differed little in doctrine from the Romish Church, and scarcely mitigated the severity of the penalties imposed for non-conformity. But the political change effected enabled Henry to suppress both the lesser and the greater monasteries, which yielded a yearly income of 170,000*l.*, part of which was devoted to providing six new bishoprics—and the colleges of Christchurch, at Oxford, and Trinity, at Cambridge; but the greater portion of the proceeds was distributed in grants to the nobility. At the same time, such of the benefices, with their tithes, as belonged to these establishments, became the property of the Crown, and many of them were, in similar manner, given to various laymen. During the brief reign of Edward VI., the progress of the doctrinal Reformation was more rapid, and its character more definite, and, towards its close, those principles obtained the fullest national and legal recognition, which in England they were destined to obtain. All subsequent abiding legislation on the subject of religion, for a long time after, was directed, not to further innovation in the doctrines, ceremonies, or government of the Church, but to the maintenance—against, on the one side, the adherents of the Papal system, and, upon the other, the advanced reformers—of the settlement already made.

The Catholic reaction in the reign of Mary, and its sanguinary persecutions followed until Elizabeth ascended the throne.

Elizabeth at once replaced the Church in the position it had occupied before the reign of Mary. Parliament again affirmed the Sovereign's supremacy as head of the Church, and punished with extreme severity all those who questioned this prerogative.* In 1559, the Act of Uniformity restored with little variance the Book of Common Prayer, and made it penal to be absent without reasonable cause from a church where it was used. In 1563, the second Book of Homilies was printed, and the Larger Catechism sanctioned. And the Articles of Religion—which, in 1563, had been subscribed (then numbering thirty-eight) by the Convocation—were, in 1571, adopted in their present shape and number, ratified by the Queen, and confirmed by Act of Parliament. Thus, Protestant Christianity was re-established as the national religion; and severe coercive measures were enacted to secure unanimous profession and obedience.

Then arose the Puritans, whose objections to the established religion seem at first to have been confined to points of ceremonial and discipline. Of the unrelenting rigour with which they were treated by Elizabeth and her High Commission Court every one is familiar. The Puritans of this period were principally Presbyterians.

From this time we may date the origin of Nonconformity, though not as yet embodied in distinct and separate sects; for though by law all subjects of the State were still considered members of the National Establishment, and every act of separate worship was a legal crime, yet henceforth, notwithstanding penal statutes, many congregations, risking and encountering punishment, continually assembled, more or less in secret, to indulge a form of worship differing from the established ceremonial. They virtually thus became distinct associations, though intending to remain still members of the English Church. Indeed, the early Puritans were far from wishing for a toleration such as that which now exists. Attaching infinite importance to the points of ritual and government on which they differed from the ruling party, they were just as disinclined to tolerate imagined error in their brethren as conform to it themselves, and would have thought the State to be regardless of its highest duty if it merely suffered them to worship in the way they deemed most scriptural, without enforcing this supposed most scriptural model as the rule for the entire community.

Soon arose the Independents, and shortly afterwards the Baptists, who, rejecting equally the Presbyterian and Episcopal machinery, maintained that every individual congregation is a separate Church, complete and perfect in itself, and altogether independent of external oversight. They also held that the province of the civil magistrate did not extend to spiritual things.

Against these various opponents, the Established Church, throughout the reigns of Elizabeth and James the First (1558-1625), maintained itself with scarcely any alteration. Both Puritans and Catholics were put to death, and otherwise persecuted without mercy. Severe laws were passed against both. Upwards of 200 Catholics were put to death, pursuant to these various statutes, in the reign of Elizabeth; 200 more either died in prison or were banished, and many Nonconformists suffered a like fate. In the reign of Charles I. the controversy attained its crisis. Presbyterianism became triumphant, the Westminster Confession of Faith was adopted by Parliament, Episcopacy suppressed, and 3,000 clergymen, who refused to take the Covenant, were ejected from their benefices. But as Cromwell's star appeared in the ascendant, Presbyterianism declined.

The principle of toleration was first recognised in this administration; free exercise of their religion being guaranteed to all "who professed faith in God in Christ Jesus;" and it was further added, "that none be compelled to conform to the public religion by penalties or otherwise, but that endeavours be used to win them by sound doctrine and the example of a good conversation."

The spirit of the age, however, did not suffer the Protector to give full effect to this engagement. "Popery and Prelacy" were excepted by express provision; and Socinians, Jews, and other sects obnoxious to the popular sentiment were also virtually unprotected. The royalist clergy were severely dealt with, no one being suffered to receive them as instructors of their children; while the whole of those who still preserved a natural attachment to the recently-abolished ritual were prohibited from using, either in public or in their families, the Book of Common Prayer.

* The Queen preferred the title of "Supreme Governor" of the Church to "Supreme Head." All the bishops except one refused to take the oath, and were in consequence deprived; 178 of the inferior clergy imitated their refusal with a similar result.

With the monarchy Episcopacy was restored to its pre-eminence. The ascent of Charles the Second to the vacant throne in 1660 seemed to have effaced from history the period of the Great Rebellion, and the Episcopal Church regained the dominant position, fenced by penal statutes, it had occupied in the days of Laud.

A previous professed endeavour to conciliate the Nonconformists failed. Like Mary, like Elizabeth, like James the First, so Charles the Second also, on the eve of his accession, promised tenderness to conscientious scruples; but the Savoy conference between the Nonconformists and Episcopalians, convened pursuant to this promise, ended in no tangible result. An Act of Uniformity, more stringent than the similar enactment of Elizabeth, was passed in 1662, by which all ministers refusing to assent to everything contained in the Book of Common Prayer, as recently amended, were to be ejected from their benefices on the next St. Bartholomew's-day; and accordingly 2,000 ministers were then deprived of their preferments. Several other statutes, varying in rigour, were enacted in this reign against the Nonconformists, for the purpose of protecting the Established Church. In 1661, the Corporation Act excluded all Dissenters from municipal appointments. Two conventicle acts, in 1664 and 1670, made it penal for five persons, in addition to the occupiers of a house, to assemble for religious worship; and in 1665 the Five Mile Act imposed a penalty of 40*l.* on every Nonconformist minister who came within five miles of any corporate town, and also upon all, whether ministers or laymen, who, if not frequenting the Established Church, should teach in a public or private school. In 1673, the Test Act, aimed at Roman Catholics and Nonconformists equally, excluded them from civil offices and military commands. In 1678, in consequence of Oates's plot, the Roman Catholics were prohibited from sitting in Parliament. The king made several attempts to grant a toleration, but as these endeavours were supported by Parliament to spring from a desire to favour Roman Catholics, they uniformly failed. Still the nation was tired of persecution, and a feeling of the impolicy of treating harshly nonconforming Protestants gained ground.

This feeling was much strengthened in the reign of James, when the Nonconformists declined to receive the toleration which the King, by an illegal stretch of his prerogative, held out to them. Several of the bishops, grateful for assistance rendered at a critical conjuncture, entertained a plan of comprehension, which, proceeding on an alteration of some portions of the liturgy, might bring again within the pale of the Established Church the mass of those who had abandoned her communion. In the troubles and excitement of the times, however, no advance was made in this direction; but a disposition to indulgence was excited in the ruling party, not unlikely to be fruitful when a favourable opportunity occurred. This opportunity was soon presented, when King James II., partly for political and partly for religious causes, was, in 1688, expelled the throne. The claim of the Dissenters to a milder treatment could not well be disregarded, either by the monarch they had helped to elevate, or by the Church they had assisted to defend. Accordingly, the Toleration Act bestowed, on all but Roman Catholics and such as denied the doctrine of the Trinity, full liberty of worship, upon paying tithes and other dues, taking the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, and certifying their places of worship to the bishops or the justices of the peace: Dissenting ministers being also required to sign thirty-five and a half of the Articles of the Established Church. The scheme for a comprehension was proceeded with, but proved abortive. A commission, appointed by the King, suggested sundry alterations in the liturgy; but these the Lower House of Convocation was unwilling to concede, and this, the last, endeavour to procure by comprehension greater uniformity was finally abandoned, and has never since that period been renewed.

The Revolution settled the Established Church upon its present basis. Several alterations have, indeed, been since effected in its relative position towards other sects; but not the slightest change has been effected in the Church itself, in its doctrines, polity, or worship. The principal effect of the Toleration Act was on the character of the Church as a national establishment. Before this statute, no discrepancy was deemed conceivable between the Church and the community; the one was looked upon as altogether co-extensive with the other. To dissent from the belief or mode of worship sanctioned by supreme ecclesiastical authority was much the same as to rebel against the civil power; and all who placed themselves in this predicament were either to be brought by fines and other punishments, to yield conformity, or, if intractable, were to be burnt or banished, and the absolute identity of Church and nation thus restored. The Toleration Act in part destroyed this theory. The Episcopal Church was still considered "national," as being recognised as orthodox by national authority—endowed by law with the exclusive right to tithes and similar involuntary contributions—gifted with a special portion of the State's support—and subject generally to the State's control; but those who differed from her creeds and formularies were allowed, while aiding to support the legal faith, to worship in the way they deemed most scriptural and proper, subject for a time to some disqualifying statutes, which have gradually been repealed or modified.

The sketch concludes with a few brief lines, pointing out that the era of the Revolution was the birthday of religious sects in England; that four of the principal sects—the Presbyterians, Independents, Baptists, and the Society of Friends—derive their origin directly from the conflict of opinions which produced and followed the Reformation;—that from 1688, the history of religion, ceasing to be identical with the history of the State, must not, as formerly, be looked for in the national annals or the pages of the statute-book, but in the records of each individual Church.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

Since the issue of the report on religious worship, last week, the *Times* has paraphrased one or two of the summary results of the returns, and given full extracts respecting the Mormons, &c., but carefully abstained from that portion of them which bore upon the relative position of Church and Dissent. On Monday, however, it broke silence by publishing, in the shape of a leader, some of the most prominent facts elicited by the document. In reference to this "publication of extraordinary interest," the *Times* promises to intro-

duce the public to the more important portions of the sketch of the different sects, but meanwhile confines its attention to the proceedings and position of the Church of England. The statistics under the head "Church of England" are described "as among the most remarkable we have ever known," but while stating that the churches built between 1831 and 1851 certainly exceed 2,000 in number, being an addition of almost one-fourth to the aggregate of those before standing, and showing that throughout this whole period two new churches, upon an average, must have been consecrated every week, our contemporary fails to mention that nearly the whole of this great work is the result of Voluntaryism. "It may interest some readers if we add that the average cost of a new church is set at about 3,000*l.*, or at about 5*l.* 10*s.* each sitting, exclusive of the cost of site. Altogether, the sum expended upon new churches during the above-mentioned interval (exclusive of restoration works, which, as most readers will know, form no small item) exceeds 6,000,000*l.* sterling." The *Times* is candid enough to state that though "the Church of England is presumed to be the Church of the nation" it provides accommodation for only one half, and quotes the facts mentioned in the supplement of our last number, that for every 100 sittings furnished by the Church of England and Wales Dissenters furnish ninety-three.

While the Tory and High Church journals have curiously enough, found in the Returns on Religious Worship evidence of the supremacy of the Church of England, the *Daily News* has taken a juster and more comprehensive view of the results. The true deduction to be drawn from these statistics is "rather the immense power of voluntary exertions, both in the Church and out of the Church, that has characterised the people of England during the last twenty years."

But what we desire to press on public attention is that, while before 1830 the House of Commons made church building grants out of the general taxation of the country, since 1830 it has made none; yet Voluntaryism has subsequently done four times as much for church building as State assistance did before. Let no Churchman, then, sneer at Voluntaryism; it might not suit the bulk of the nation to rely entirely on it; but it has done great things for the Church.

Our contemporary then sums up what has been done for Nonconformity:—

Well may Nonconformists place faith and confidence in the voluntary principle, seeing what they have accomplished by it. In the reign of William III. the freeholders of England and Wales were divided thus:—

Conformists	2,477,254
Nonconformists	108,676
Roman Catholics	13,856

and probably the proportion of the total population was not very dissimilar. Now, out of 34,967 places of worship, with accommodation for 10,252,568 people, the Nonconformists of all classes have 20,890 chapels, capable of holding 5,084,648 persons. And of their sittings they make greater use than the Church of England; for whilst it, on Census Sunday, only used thirty-three per cent. of its accommodation, the Wesleyan Reformers occupied forty-five per cent. of theirs, the Independents thirty-eight per cent., and the Baptists thirty-seven per cent.

It is then shown that, descending from generals to particulars, the exertions of the Nonconformists become even more striking, and the final conclusion is drawn:—

In truth, looking religiously at Nonconformity as a means of extending a knowledge of the Gospel, nothing can be more creditable to the people of England; whilst, if we regard it politically, we shall find in it not only a palladium of liberty, but a great source of our national strength. We have, therefore, no reason to be ashamed of the Voluntary reproach, that we have "a hundred religions, and only one sauce."

Mr. Baines' high position as a statistician invests his opinions on these returns with more than ordinary interest. In the *Leeds Mercury* of Saturday he sums up the conclusions of Mr. Mann's report which he eulogises for its exemplary impartiality. He agrees with Mr. Mann in thinking that the number of places of worship (17,105) set down as belonging to religious bodies beyond the pale of the Establishment is "somewhat exaggerated."

Our impression is, that the number of chapels belonging to the nonconforming bodies is between 14,000 and 15,000, and the number of school-rooms, private houses, &c., used for worship is about 7,000. Perhaps the true explanation may be, that 17,105 are in fact "separate buildings," including school-rooms under that designation, and that the remaining 3,285 are rooms in private houses, and of course "not separate buildings." In number of buildings, and still more of congregations, the Dissenting communions exceed the Establishment; but owing to the larger dimensions of the churches, the latter give a somewhat greater aggregate of accommodation, and they have a rather larger attendance.

The *Mercury* thinks the estimate of fifty-eight per cent. of the population, as the proportion "able to attend" public worship, is "a fair and just one." But though there may be an apparent, there is not a real, deficiency of accommodation, if it should appear that the number who actually attend is far below the amount of accommodation, and that the existing places of worship are almost everywhere far from being filled. It would be a waste of money to provide church and chapel room for those who certainly would not attend, or even for those whom all our experience shows not to attend. Our contemporary does not agree with Mr. Mann in his conclusion, that on the Census Sunday as many as 5,288,294 persons neglected public worship who might have been present.

We think it not likely that in any community, however exemplary in their religion, as large a proportion as seventy per cent. of the entire population could be expected to attend worship on any one Sunday. He estimates the young children at 3,000,000, and the sick and aged at 1,000,000; and if these alone be deducted from the population of 17,927,609, it would leave 13,927,609 able to attend worship.

But, of course, to attend on 4,000,000 children and invalids, and to take the charge of the 3,278,039 houses in England and Wales, must require a great number of mothers, servants, and other helpers; and though most of these might attend worship once on the Sunday, yet where illness exists in a family, especially in a poor family, or where the infants are nursing, the mother is very often kept at home the entire day. Then there are all those detained from worship, not every Sunday, but many on each Sunday, by other causes, more or less proper, such as the professional duties of medical men and their servants, attendance on public conveyances, travelling, defective clothing, distance, from the place of worship, &c., &c. For all the classes we have mentioned, that is, the mothers, nurses, &c., we think it quite too little to allow only 1,378,283, which is the difference between Mr. Mann's seventy per cent. (or 12,549,326) and the 13,927,609 who remain after deducting the 4,000,000 infants and sick persons. Again, doubtless many would be absent on the Census Sunday who were at places of worship the Sunday before, or the Sunday after, or who generally attend. If, therefore, 7,261,082 persons attended on that day, we must certainly take the number who usually attend, or at least who do not habitually neglect worship, at something considerably more than that number.

In our judgment, then, Mr. Mann might safely have done one of two things—either made an addition to the 7,261,082 attendants on the Census Sunday for others who usually attend worship, or reduced the 12,549,326 whom he estimates as able to attend once on a Sunday.* However, it is a matter of judgment, on which we are sure Mr. Mann has formed an independent and honest opinion: and though we think he has somewhat underrated the attendants and overrated the non-attendants at worship, yet we agree with him that the number of the latter is lamentably great, and ought to excite the serious concern of all Christians.

REMOVAL OF CITY CHURCHES.

The Bishop of London has approved a plan which has been submitted to him by the Rev. Charles Hume, M.A., rector of St. Michael's, Woodstreet, for removing some of the churches in the City, with a view to a supply of some of the suburbs. The reverend gentleman states, that a small number of the City churches have considerable and encouraging congregations, two or three of them amounting to nearly 300. On the other hand, the attendance at some falls below sixteen, and there are many at which it does not amount to fifty—the average attendance at the churches proposed to be removed being only thirty-three. While such is the state of things in the City, it has been shown by a return made to the House of Commons by the sub-division of parish commissioners that no fewer than fifty-eight new churches are required in the diocese of London. Of this number forty-nine are required for the metropolitan district and immediate suburbs, and nine for towns and districts within eight miles of St. Paul's. Mr. Hume contends that less than twenty churches would meet the wants of the population resident within the city of London Union, and consequently at least thirty-eight churches might be advantageously taken down and rebuilt in such other parts of the metropolis and its environs as are deficient in church accommodation. The following are the details of the plan: The number of churches proposed to be dealt with is fifty; it is proposed to remove (at present) thirty, and to retain twenty—the parishes whose churches are moved to be consolidated with those which are left standing. In arranging the incomes for the consolidated parishes, the rule would be this—To every parish, the population of which exceeds 1,000, 450*l.* per annum to be assessed; for every additional 100 parishioners add 12*l.* a year. The aggregate income of the fifty churches is 20,560*l.*; the aggregate income of the twenty proposed consolidated parishes would be 11,358*l.*; there would remain to the thirty churches to be removed 9,207*l.*, giving 306*l.* and a fraction for each. The additional sum required to make up a sufficient income for a clergyman, from 500*l.* to 700*l.*, should be made up in the new locality to which the church is removed.

The Census Returns on Religious Worship strikingly illustrate the superfluous accommodation in the city of London as compared with other metropolitan districts. Thus, taking the "City of London" and "Shoreditch," we find "that the former provides religious accommodation for eighty-two per cent. of the population, or 13,000 more than could at any one time attend, while the latter has accommodation for not quite eighteen per cent. In the City, then, the religious accommodation is twenty-four per cent. greater than is strictly needed, while in Shoreditch it is forty per cent. less. In one case is "spiritual abundance," in the other is "spiritual destitution." The above figures represent the proportions when all the denominations are taken into account. If, however, we consider the Church of England alone, we shall find that her accommodation is really twenty-seven per cent. in excess, while that of Shoreditch is about forty-four per cent. in defect.

NONCONFORMIST DISABILITIES—PAST AND PRESENT.

[From Mr. Mann's Report on Religious Worship.]

The following are the principal disqualifying statutes which have been gradually repealed or modified: The Conventicle Act, 22 Car. II., c. 1 (repealed in 1689), which made it penal to attend a Nonconformist

* Mr. Mann does not intend to represent the 5,288,294 as habitually neglecting religious services. He expressly says, in a note at p. 153—"It must not, however, be supposed that this 5,288,294 represents the number of habitual neglecters of religious services. This number is absent every Sunday; but it is not always composed of the same persons. The number of habitual non-attenders cannot be precisely stated from these tables." Still, from the figures given by Mr. Mann in the text, and especially from his estimate that seventy per cent. ought to be in attendance once in the Sunday, we fear some misapprehension may arise, and therefore we have thought the above remarks needful.

meeting of more than five persons; the Corporation Act, 13 Car. II., c. 1 (repealed 1828), which disqualified for offices in corporations all who should decline to take the sacrament according to the rites of the Established Church, and to swear that it is in no case lawful to take arms against the King; the Test Act, 25 Car., c. 2 (repealed in 1828), which disqualified from holding any place of trust or public office those who should refuse to take the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, subscribe a declaration against transubstantiation, and receive the Lord's Supper in accordance with the usage of the Church of England; the Act of 13 and 14 Car. II., c. 4, by which Dissenters were prohibited from keeping schools (modified in 1799, by allowing them to teach upon taking the usual oaths and subscribing the usual declaration); the provision (repealed in 1813) in the Toleration Act, excepting from its benefits all persons who denied the Trinity; the Occasional Conformity Act, 10 Anne, c. 2 (repealed in 1718), by which no person was eligible for public employment unless he entirely conformed; the Schism Act, 12 Anne, st. II., c. 7 (repealed in 1718), by which all schoolmasters were to be licensed by the bishops, and to be strict Conformists.

The chief disabilities which, for the safeguard of the Established Church, are still imposed on other bodies, are the following: All persons holding certain responsible civil and military offices, and all ecclesiastical and collegiate persons, preachers, teachers, and schoolmasters, high constables, and practitioners of the law, are required to promise, by oath or affirmation, allegiance to the Crown, and acknowledge its ecclesiastical supremacy; and also to abjure allegiance to the descendants of the Pretender, and to maintain the Act of Settlement. No Dissenter can hold the mastership of a college or other endowed school, unless endowed since 1688, for the immediate benefit of Protestant Dissenters. All meetings for religious worship of more than twenty persons besides the family, if held in a building not certified to the Register-General, are subject to a penalty of 20*l.* Every person appointed to any office, for admission to which it was necessary under the Test Act to receive the Sacrament according to the custom of the Church of England, is to make a declaration, "upon the true faith of a Christian," that he will never exercise any power, authority, or influence obtained by virtue of such office, to injure or disturb the English Church or its bishops and clergy. (Stephen's Commentaries, vol. iii., p. 108.) Mayors or other principal magistrates, appearing at any Dissenting place of worship with the insignia of office, are disabled from holding any official situation. Persons professing the Roman Catholic religion must, in order to sit in Parliament, or vote at Parliamentary elections, or become members of lay corporations, take an oath abjuring any intention to subvert the Church Establishment; and another, promising never to make use of any privilege to disturb the Protestant succession or the Protestant Government. The latter oath must be taken to enable them to exercise any franchise or civil right, and to hold any office from which they were excluded by the Test Act. No Roman Catholic can present to any benefice, nor hold the office of Regent of the United Kingdom, Lord High Chancellor, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, High Commissioner of the General Assembly of Scotland, nor any office in the Church or the ecclesiastical courts, or in the universities, colleges, or public schools.

THE CONVOCATION of the Prelates and Clergy of the Province of Canterbury was formally prorogued on Wednesday, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, until the 1st February; then, adds the *Morning Chronicle*, "to meet for the dispatch of business." [We have heard it stated, however, that the High Church party will make no attempt to dispatch business this year.—*Spectator*.]

MINOR CANONS OF DEAN AND CHAPTER OF ST. PAUL'S.—The memorial of the Rev. R. C. Packman and the Rev. J. Lupton, two of the Minor Canons of St. Paul's Cathedral, against the Dean and Chapter, was heard on Monday at eleven o'clock, in the Chapter-house, before the Bishop of London (as visitor), assisted by Sir John Patteson (assessor), and the Right Hon. S. Lushington, Chancellor of the Diocese of London. The Dean of St. Paul's and several of the clergy of the cathedral were present. Archdeacon Hale was prevented attending by illness. Mr. Haly appeared for the memorialists; Mr. Rolt, Q.C., and Mr. R. Phillimore for the Dean and Chapter. The complaint of the minor canons is that the chapter had not allowed them those privileges and patronage to which they were entitled, and had, in fact, overstepped the Act of Parliament. The inquiry, after speeches from Mr. Haly and Mr. Rolt, Q.C., was adjourned.

CHURCH-RATE CONTEST AT MODBURY.—A correspondent writes as follows: A paragraph appeared in the *Morning Post*, January 5, stating that the polling in a Church-rate contest here had terminated in the total discomfiture of the Anti-Church-rate party, led on by Mr. G. West and Mr. Thomas Pearce. This compels me to give you the particulars. On the 22nd December last, a very quiet vestry meeting was about to be held;—neither of the above-named knowing anything of it half an hour before it commenced, but we were there in time, and the churchwardens asked for a rate of three halfpence in the pound to meet the several items they then laid before us; such as sacramental bread and wine, clerk and sexton's salaries, chiming of bells, washing surplices, &c., &c. To this an amendment was proposed, that the question be postponed for a twelvemonth. This the reverend chairman refused to put as illegal. The motion for the rate was then put, and carried by the chairman's second vote—eight ayes, eight noes. A poll was demanded, which being kept open seven days, terminated in sixty-one recording their votes in favour of, and thirty-four against it, out of upwards of 220 ratepayers. There was no lack of effort or of coaxing

on the part of its interested advocates, and no small amount of abuse and misrepresentation was bestowed on the opponents of the measure. So far from total discomfiture, we think that if we did this, altogether unprepared and unexpected, we hope, by an infusion of right views and principles, during the next twelve months, that they will find it difficult, if (they do at all) ever again, to pass in vestry a vote in favour of this wretched and iniquitous impost.

CLERICAL INTOLERANCE AT BANBURY.—On Friday evening, the 6th January, 1854, a public meeting was convened in the Town Hall, Banbury, by the Mayor, in pursuance of a respectably-signed requisition, calling upon him to adopt measures for the relief of the necessitous at this trying season of the year. Gentlemen assembled in great numbers, and were conducting the business in a manner satisfactory, when it was proposed that all the ministers in the town should be *ex-officio* members of the committee; whereupon the Vicar of Banbury arose and declared that his "*conscience would not allow him*" to acquiesce in such a proposition; in short, he could not unite with Dissenting ministers in any movement, whatever might be the object in contemplation. This statement created no little stir in the meeting. The Rev. J. Parker, Independent minister, contended that whatever doctrinal difference there might exist between the clergy of the Establishment and Dissenting ministers, they surely ought to be united in endeavouring to relieve the destitute, and promote a cause so humane, benevolent, and philanthropic as that then before the meeting. He further stated, that in his opinion a Dissenting minister had equal right to be on such a committee, so far as ecclesiastical position is concerned, as had the vicar of the parish or the bishop of the diocese—an expression which was rapturously applauded. No special gift was needed to perceive on which side the feeling of the meeting displayed itself. The best feelings of the best hearts in the assembly were deeply wounded by this display of vicarial despotism. It appears that the Mayor, who convened the meeting, is a Dissenter—the chief promoters of the cause are Dissenters—the idea was first conceived by a Dissenter—so that throughout the cause was born in the very cradle of dissent, and advocated to the meeting in a spirit worthy of the sturdiest Nonconformist. The vicar, however, did not gain his purpose, inasmuch as both the Independent and Baptist ministers were placed on the committee.

BROTHER JONATHAN'S VIEW OF THE BRAINTREE CASE.—An article in the *New York Tribune*, headed "A Popular Triumph in England," thus concludes a review of the Baintree Church-rate litigation: "What a monstrous state of things does this narrowly-won contest disclose! One would have thought the time had gone by for an arrogant clergy to levy a rate on the parish against the legally expressed wishes of the bulk of that parish. For the majority to tax the minority for such a purpose is bad enough, but for ten men in a parish to have it in their power to levy imposts on a thousand is an outrage. It is, however, to be practised no longer in England. The decision of the House of Lords will be everywhere enforced by the people. A general rising of parishes against being taxed by the minority has already begun. At several places the rate has been refused, and at one, Maidstone, the parties have had a fair, though excited, struggle; the poll was kept open four days, with the keenest exertions on both sides, ending in the Church party being overwhelmingly outvoted. It is a great popular triumph, and the precursor of the abolition of the whole State-Church system."

LORD GUILFORD has resigned his two livings of Alresford and St. Mary's. This result is a great, but not a complete, victory. The reverend and noble lord is but in the position of that great runner in Grecian fable who, to secure ultimate success, dropped once and again a golden apple on the race course. These two livings of Alresford and St. Mary's are, united, of about the value of 4,000*l.* a year, and therefore golden apples in the richest sense of the word. The object, of course, is to stay proceedings in the far weightier matter of the mesne profits of the mastership of St. Cross. The move is an ill-judged one on Lord Guilford's part inasmuch as he voluntarily deprives himself of spoils of which he could not have been deprived by the act of law, in order to insure quiet possession, as he imagines, of other spoils of which the law will most surely deprive him.—*Times*.

DISSENTERS' FUNERALS.—For some time past a good deal of excitement has been produced by the refusal of the curates of Barking to admit the bodies of Dissenters into the church in that place previous to interment. In consequence of the unseemly scenes which have been witnessed, the parishioners determined to memorialise the Bishop of London upon the subject, and, it is stated, his lordship has recently intimated to the curates, that they are not, on any account, to refuse admission of such bodies into the parish church.—*Chelmsford Chronicle*.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.—At the time of the census there were more than 250,000 teachers in Sunday-schools instructing, every Sunday, in religious knowledge, as many as 1,800,000 children. The total number of Sunday scholars on the books of the schools was about 2,400,000, and about two teachers to every fifteen scholars.

TABLE-TURNING AND THE BISHOP OF LONDON.—The Bishop of London has intimated to all reverend believers in the mystery and attributes of table-turning, that he cannot allow them to discharge their ministerial functions in any part of his diocese.—*Literary Gazette*.

LORD BROUGHAM, who is now in his seventy-fifth year, and in the enjoyment of good health, is expected to leave his chateau at Cannes at the close of this week for Paris, en route to London, to attend Parliament.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ON THE CONTINENT.

A deputation from the Protestant Alliance had an interview with the Earl of Clarendon, at the Foreign-office on Monday, to present a memorial, adopted at the public meeting lately held upon the subject of the liberty of British Protestants in foreign countries in respect to the exercise of their religion. The deputation comprised the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Hon. A. Kinnaid, Sir J. D. Paul, Bart., Mr. T. Chambers, M.P., Admiral Harcourt, Rev. Dr. Cumming, Rev. T. Binney, Captain Trotter, Mr. Seeley, &c.

The Earl of Shaftesbury having introduced the deputation, read the memorial, which referred in detail to the Malta code and the disabilities of Protestants in Tuscany, Spain, and Portugal. It appeared at length in our columns a few weeks since. The memorial urged that arrangements be made "with a view to the establishment of a better understanding with the Governments of Tuscany, Portugal, and Spain, on the points referred to, and also to the prevention of intolerant enactments in the Island of Malta; in adopting this course, the committee are confident that Her Majesty's Government will have the support of Parliament, and secure the grateful respect of all Her Majesty's loyal Protestant subjects."

The Earl of Clarendon said, that when the meeting of the Protestant Alliance was held lately in Freemasons' Hall, he (Lord Clarendon) was of course not inattentive to what took place. The answer to his inquiries respecting Portugal was one we all, he thought, should be pleased with, namely, that although there were severe enactments in that country on the subject of religion, they are not now put in practice. He referred to a dispatch lately received from Sir Richard Pakenham, in which it was stated that British Protestants were not in the least interfered with in the freest exercise of their religion, although it must be confessed that the Roman Catholic religion being the religion of the State, any dissent from it was regarded with disapproval, nor could the people view with friendly eyes any active system of proselytism. As to Tuscany, what was said in the memorial, was perfectly true and just. He (Lord Clarendon) did not think we should have any cause to complain again, there had been that manifold and earnest expression of Protestant opinion which could not but produce the best effects. On the part of the Government, nothing should be left undone in those matters with respect to which the prevailing and proper opinions had been expressed. Even in our own statute books there were laws upon the subject of religion without doubt severe, but happily quite obsolete. He believed that there were equally severe laws in the Portuguese code, and if such were put in practice there would at once be good grounds to justify our remonstrance.

Mr. Chambers inquired whether his lordship was aware what had been done concerning the new penal code proposed for Malta, which Lord John Russell had, upon a motion made by his friend Mr. Kinnaid, and seconded by himself, stated should be submitted to the law officers?

The Earl of Clarendon replied that he was sorry not to be able to give any information on that point, which was a matter within the province of the Colonial-office.

Dr. Thompson begged to recall his lordship's attention to the persecution of Protestants in Portugal. The particular enactment complained of in the memorial, was not the old law, but an entirely new one not yet sanctioned by the Cortes, but already sanctioned by the Sovereign.

The Earl of Shaftesbury, in reply to the Earl of Clarendon, said that the new law would be undoubtedly more severe than the present one.

The Earl of Clarendon then referred to several parts of the memorial, and promised to consider with attention the information just laid before him in reference to the new code for Portugal and the other subjects referred to.

The deputation, having thanked his lordship gratefully for his kind reception and attention, then withdrew.

Religious and Educational Intelligence.

DEVONPORT.—The Rev. P. Aspinall Hampson, late of Warrington, has accepted an unanimous call to the pastorate of Prince's-street Chapel, Devonport, and commenced his labours on the 8th inst.

EDINBURGH.—Richard B. Sanderson, Esq., has accepted a unanimous call to become pastor of the Church lately under the care of the late Rev. Christopher Anderson.—*Edinburgh Courier*.

GREAT TORRINGTON.—At a Congregational tea-meeting, held in connexion with the Baptist chapel, Great Torrington, the Rev. David Thompson was presented with a purse containing twenty guineas, as a token of gratitude for ministerial and other services. Several interesting addresses were delivered.

The Rev. CHARLES BERRY, minister of the Unitarian congregation of the great meeting at Leicester, was recently presented with a timepiece and a purse containing 350*l.*, in grateful acknowledgment of his faithful services as pastor for a period of fifty years. The chapel was crowded, and among the members of the congregation present were—The Mayor (Samuel How, Esq.), the Town Clerk (Samuel Stone, Esq.), the Chairman of the Estate Committee (Joseph Whetstone, Esq.), William Biggs, Esq., M.P. for Newport (Isle of Wight), T. T. Paget, Esq., Mr. Dare (town missionary), &c.

CARR'S-LANE CHAPEL, BIRMINGHAM.—From a New Year's address issued by the Rev. J. A. James to the members of the Church at Carr's-lane, we learn that there are nine hundred resident and forty-five non-resident members connected with it—the increase during the past year, after allowing for dismissions and deaths, being nearly forty. It appears, also, that

the Rev. R. W. Dale has been unanimously chosen assistant minister, and that since his election the care of the congregation at the Lozell's Chapel has been undertaken by the pastors at Carr's-lane. The amount contributed to various objects during the year has been 2,669*l.*

PUDSEY.—On Monday, the 26th ult., the annual tea party took place in the Independent school-room, Pudsey, Leeds, when about 400 sat down to tea; after which, Mr. J. Wade, one of the deacons, in an interesting speech, presented to the pastor, the Rev. T. Jowett, in the name of the Bible Class and other friends in the congregation, a very beautiful purse containing 16*l.* 10*s.*, as a token of their affectionate esteem, which was accepted and acknowledged in suitable terms. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. J. Aston, Eccleshill, who stated that the Church and schools had been more than doubled under his friend's pastorate, and by Messrs. Strickland, Cooper, Richardson (Pudsey), and Stagg (London), and others.

STOCKWELL CONGREGATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.—On Friday evening, December the 9th, the annual social meeting of the Church and Congregation, at Stockwell, under the care of the Rev. David Thomas, met to celebrate the 9th anniversary of his settlement as their minister. The large room was filled with a highly-respectable audience, amongst whom various members of the Church representatives of the different societies connected therewith took part in the proceedings of the evening. In the course of the meeting, the following facts were stated, plainly indicating how much can be accomplished by the voluntary principle, where the religious teaching is wide in its spirit and quickening in its tendency. It appeared that when Mr. Thomas came to Stockwell, the congregation numbered about two hundred, amongst its members only one young man was to be found; since that there have been between three and four hundred members admitted. The chapel has been almost entirely rebuilt, is now capable of holding upwards of a thousand, is well attended, and its style and arrangement make it one of the most complete chapels in the neighbourhood. Through Mr. Thomas, an Educational Institute has been built, at the cost of 1,300*l.*, which amount was soon cleared by the friends. A course of literary and scientific lectures is delivered through the winter, at the expense of 40*l.* per annum. Recently there has been formed a working-man's society, which numbers about a hundred and seventy members. Day schools are conducted here, male and female, on the principles of the Borough-road schools. It appeared that 60*l.* a year has been raised for these schools, and the children's pence had amounted, during six years, to 900*l.*, and that twelve hundred scholars had passed through the schools. These schools have been built and supported entirely free from governmental assistance. Notwithstanding this building and the rebuilding of the chapel, not more than about 450*l.* remain, which, by a plan in operation, will be cleared in two years.

FUNERAL OF THE REV. WILLIAM JAY.

On Tuesday (says the *Bath Journal*) the earthly remains of the Rev. William Jay, were consigned to the grave in the burial-ground of Argyle Chapel, on Snow-hill. A large concourse of persons attended to show a last tribute of respect to this venerable and eminent minister, in defiance of the distance of the place of burial, and of the snow which lay thick upon the ground. Many of the shops and private houses of the city were closed on the occasion. On reaching the burial-ground, the coffin was borne into the chapel, followed by a long line of friends, and was deposited in a vault containing the remains of the deceased minister's first wife, and of other deceased members of his family. The coffin bore the following simple inscription: "Rev. William Jay, died 27th December, 1853, aged eighty-four years."

The Rev. John Owen, minister of the Vineyards Chapel, afterwards addressed the assemblage. In the course of his remarks he said:—

Many have been the bereavements of the Church of Jesus Christ during the past year. Some have been taken from us under our immediate notice, and others at a distance. Among those to whom special reference may be made we may mention a Tottenham as well known and greatly beloved in this city, where a great part of his life was spent as an able and devoted champion of the truth as it is in Jesus. He has been called away at an early period to his eternal rest. We may mention a Cox, the historian of Melancthon, and a zealous promoter of the Baptist Missionary Society, who, having been spared to us to a good old age, has now been taken from his earthly labours to enter upon his heavenly inheritance. We may refer to a Wardlaw, whom, whether we regard him as a pastor, or as the tutor of a theological establishment, we must ever remember as the unflinching defender of the faith as it is in Jesus Christ. For him, too, we have to mourn. And now to these we have to add the revered and beloved Jay. In referring to our departed friend, whether we regard him as a believer in Christ, as a minister of the everlasting Gospel, as the pastor of a Christian Church for so long a period, as a philanthropist, as an author, as a citizen, or as a friend, we cannot but sorrow—but, most of all, that we shall see his face no more on earth. . . . His name will for ever be imprinted on my memory. For fifty years I have known it; for forty in connexion with religion; for thirty-five as a fellow-minister of the Gospel; and especially during the last twenty-five have I regarded him as a son would regard the connexion with his father. From my first taking up my residence in this city to the last day of his life, there was never a mis-thought or a mis-word between us; and therefore I cannot but mourn his loss on my own account. But how can we best express the sincerity of our grief, and manifest our tender regard for his memory? Why, by embracing the blessed truths which he so long proclaimed, by following the course he pointed out from the pulpit, and recommended through the press, by devoting ourselves to the service of the Lord, by imitating his excellence, and by seeking, through faith in Christ and dependence on the Holy Spirit, to attain that rest into

which he has entered, and to be with him for ever in the presence of God and of the Lamb.

The reverend gentleman concluded by giving the apostolic benediction. The family and friends of the deceased having taken a last long look at the coffin, sadly dispersed. Mr. Jay's funeral sermon was preached on Thursday morning, at the Vineyards Chapel, by the Rev. J. A. James, to a crowded congregation. A funeral sermon was also preached in Argyle Chapel, on Sunday evening, by the Rev. Jas. Sherman, of Surrey Chapel, London.

In the course of a biographical sketch of Mr. Jay, the *Patriot* remarks: The epithet "boy preacher," which was applied to him, indicates the juvenile age at which he entered the pulpit. It is on record, that he preached in Surrey Chapel when only sixteen; and we may be sure that Rowland Hill discerned something extraordinary in the lad whom he permitted to occupy such a post. Under the fostering wing of Cornelius Winter, however, his callow youth was effectually screened from those perils to which, with less judicious care, this premature publicity might have injuriously exposed him. Mr. Jay's regular ministry was confined to Bath, and was interrupted only by annual visits to London and to the coast. By his writings, however, he was so extensively known, that few persons of any denomination omitted an opportunity of hearing him. It will be satisfactory to Mr. Jay's multitudinous admirers to learn, that in addition to the treasures of Christian wisdom with which he enriched them in his life, he leaves behind him a most valuable posthumous bequest. Mr. Jay will be his own biographer; having left, quite ready for the press, an ample history of his life and times, of which individual friends, who have on different occasions been favoured with oral extracts, speak in terms of high anticipations, and we believe the public may expect, in a short time, the appearance of an autobiography equal to any in the language for variety and interest, and superior to most in practical importance and utility. The Rev. J. A. James is, it appears, Mr. Jay's literary executor.

Foreign and Colonial Intelligence.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

POLICY OF THE WESTERN POWERS.

The *Moniteur* of Friday contained a circular from M. Drouyn de l'Huys to the diplomatic agents of France, on the Eastern question. "The affairs of the East," writes M. Drouyn de l'Huys, "are taking a too serious turn, not to recall your attention, even at the moment when circumstances impose new duties upon the Government of his Imperial Majesty, to the efforts which we have not ceased to make, for the purpose of preventing the complications with which Europe is so seriously menaced." He succinctly recapitulates the course of the negotiations from the beginning, in a tone showing a strong desire on the part of the French Government to preserve peace. After touching upon the massacre of Sinope, which "took place against all prevision, Russia having declared that she only desired a material guarantee for the fulfilment of what she demanded," M. Drouyn de l'Huys announces the course about to be immediately pursued:—

The French and English Governments have consequently decided that their fleets should enter the Black Sea, and combine their movements in such a manner as to prevent the territory or the Ottoman flag from being exposed to a new attack by the Russian navy. The Vice Admirals Hamelin and Dundas have just received orders to communicate to all those to whom it concerns; and we hope that this loyal step will prevent conflicts which we should see but with deep regret.

On the text of the example set by France in declaring to the nation the course of its Government—with a glance at a similar example on the part of Russia—the *Times* reads a homily enforcing the inexpediency and inconvenience of the official reserve in which our own Government perseveres, to its own detriment. The mysterious and impolitic silence of the English Government is blamed as having naturally produced "erroneous impressions of its conduct;" while "all parties in this country," it is remarked, "will cordially concur in giving credit to the French Government for the tone of moderation and firmness which characterises this document. Our contemporary regards it as "one of those declarations which commonly precede a rupture."

According to telegraphic advices through Vienna, a division of the combined fleet entered the Black Sea, on the 30th ult.

The *Moniteur* announces that the Prince de Chimay had an audience on Monday of the Emperor Napoleon, for the purpose of delivering a message from King Leopold of Belgium. [It is supposed to have reference to the present state of Eastern affairs.]

THE CZAR AND HIS SUBJECTS.

The final reply of the Emperor of Russia is not expected before the 18th inst. All our accounts from St. Petersburg (says the *Times* of yesterday) confirm the impression that in Russia the army, the Church, and the people are flinging into this war all the national energy they possess; the upper classes only foresee with more alarm its perils and its results. Against this passionate aggression we undertake to raise a barrier; to this uncontrolled appetite we oppose the idea of mutual obligation and of law. From the nature of this contest, it is one in which Russia cannot succeed without reducing not only the East, but the West, into subjection. The Russian empire is difficult of attack on its frontiers, impregnable in the recesses of the interior. Its people are disciplined rather than debilitated by absolute government, and the force of a single will is never more serviceable than in such a struggle. Throughout the empire preparations for war are made on the largest scale of which the Government is capable. The Em-

peror is profuse in thanks and rewards to all the chief officers employed on the Danube and in Asia. He has addressed a warm letter of praise to Prince Woronzow, to Admiral Nachimow (of Sinope infamy), and to his son Constantine, for his vigorous administration of the marine department, in the absence of Prince Menschikoff.

The *Voss Gazette* states that the Vienna Cabinet had asked of the Emperor of Russia whether he would object to a European Protectorate over the Christians in Turkey; and the reply was, that his Majesty would permit no power to interfere in the matter of the Greek Church; but that he would settle the question with Turkey alone.

The 6th corps, stationed at Moscow and the environs, has received orders to move towards the south; the first columns are already in motion. The first corps, formed of Grenadiers, has been cantoned in Finland, Livonia, Esthonia, and Courland.

THE THEATRE OF WAR.

Operations have not been entirely suspended on the Danube. According to the *Journal de Constantinople* of the 24th ult., there have been three new engagements between the Ottoman troops and the Russians, though not of material consequence. Two companies of infantry, from the garrison of Kalafat, and 130 cavalry, were escorting 400 waggons, sent on a foraging expedition, when about six leagues from Kalafat they met a numerous party of Cossacks, who wished to cut them off. The Colonel in command of the Turkish detachment drew up his troops and the waggons in battle array, a hot fight ensued, and the result was that the Russians fled with considerable loss. The Imperial troops had eight men killed and nearly as many wounded. "In front of Sistowa, a small Turkish division engaged with a considerable number of Cossacks. The latter were repulsed, the Turks making ten prisoners. A steam vessel towing two gun-boats again presented itself before Isatcha and Matchine. The commandant of the fort fired on them, sinking the boats and seriously injuring the steamer, which sheered off in all haste."

The concentration of the Turkish troops continues on the Walachian frontier. The report of the correspondent of the *Medical Gazette*, in Omar Pasha's camp, is anything but encouraging. The men are suffering much from small-pox, boils, and carbuncles, and the horses from inflammation of the lungs, brought on by the perpetual change of temperature. The most considerable concentration of troops is on the two wings; the greater part of the artillery and cavalry is on the Rustchuk, Rasgrad, and Shumla line. During the last seven weeks great numbers of English volunteers have arrived at the camp.

The peasants of Lesser Walachia, assisted by the Walachian soldiery, have risen against the Russians. The whole country in the environs of Kalafat and along the left shore of the Danube is in motion. The Russian functionaries have evacuated Turnal.

The news from the Georgian frontier is bad. The Asiatic Commander, Abdi Pasha, who was threatening Gumri, has suddenly retired within the Turkish frontier near Kars, having received the news of Ali Pasha's defeat near Akiska. In his retreat he was much harassed by the enemy, and one regiment of cavalry was cut to pieces. The Ardahan force under Ali Pasha, which was lately besieging Akiska, was surprised in its camp during the night by a sortie from the garrison, 3,000 strong, with six pieces of artillery. The advanced guard made some resistance, but the Redif and Bashi Bozouk fled at once, and the regulars followed their example. Abdi Pasha has been recalled and dismissed.

The following extracts from a letter from Erzeroum give some idea of the disorganisation of the Turkish army in that quarter:—

The medical men are so ill treated, so badly lodged and fed, that they are all quitting the service, and every day one or two arrive. The commissariat, which a couple of months ago was on so good a footing, has been wasted away through negligence and dishonesty, so that a scarcity now prevails, and if the winter proves at all severe the 'Grande Armée' will have to be scattered over the country to find food. The Bashi Bozouks (Kurds and Arabs) have been committing great atrocities, not only in Georgia but also in Turkey and in Mussulman villages. They slaughter helpless women and children and priests, and carry about the heads of their victims as trophies. They rob friend and foe. The Arabs, who number 4,000 or 5,000, are under the command (but not control) of Hassan Yazigu, a famous partisan chief from Damascus, a great villain himself, and, therefore, just fitted for being at the head of his band of robbers and murderers.

THE DIFFERENCE WITH PERSIA.

M. Kenikoff, director of the Political Chancellery at Teflis, has departed for Persia and Afghanistan, as Ambassador Extraordinary of the Czar; he is accompanied by a General and Russian staff officers. He was expected at Teheran on the 30th of November. Mr. Thompson, the British Chargé d'Affaires in Persia, has succeeded in terminating the difference which had existed between that country and England. Abmet Effendi, Turkish Chargé d'Affaires, satisfied with the explanations of the Persian Government, did not think it right to interrupt his relations with the Shah.

A private letter from Trebizond of the 16th ult. states that an outbreak had very nearly broken out at Teheran, in consequence of the dismissal, at the demand of the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, of two of the most popular Ministers of the Shah. The officer commanding the guard declared that he could not answer for the public tranquillity; the people were in a state of exasperation under the impression that they were sold to the foreigner—meaning the Russians. It appears that it was in consequence of this state of things that the Shah was forced to resume his relations with the English Chargé d'Affaires, and to postpone, if not abandon altogether, the idea of dismissing his Ministers.

ATTITUDE OF SWEDEN AND DENMARK.

Russian intrigues and menaces, however, seem alike to have failed in Sweden and Denmark. On the 27th ult., King Oscar of Sweden and Norway communicated to the Swedish Diet, in secret committee, the text of a treaty concluded between him and Denmark, with a view to assure their respective neutrality in case of a European war. The substance of this treaty has been communicated in a note to the European Powers. The general rules which the Governments of Sweden and Denmark have laid down for themselves in the event of the outbreak of war, are—

Abstention during the struggle that may take place, from all participation, direct or indirect, in favour of one belligerent party to the detriment of another.

Admission into Swedish, Danish, and Norwegian ports of the men-of-war and merchantmen of those same belligerent parties, each of the two Governments reserving to itself, however, the right of prohibiting the entrance of the said vessels into certain ports, or into certain basins of those ports, an interdiction which will naturally be extended to the belligerent parties.

Permission to said vessels to provide themselves at the ports of the two monarchies with all goods and merchandise they might stand in need of, with the exception of articles regarded as contraband of war.

Exclusion from the entrance, and from the sale in the said ports, of war prizes, &c.

Such are the principal points of the neutrality declared in this note. The Sovereigns of Denmark, and Sweden and Norway, on the other hand, claim for the vessels of their respective States the right of the continuance of enjoying safety and every facility in their commercial relations with the belligerent Powers, under the obligation of submitting to the rules of the law of nations in special cases of blockade, &c.

The *National Gazette* of Berlin states that Prussia is carrying on negotiations with Sweden and Denmark for settling a common course of action, in order to secure the rights of neutral flags, in case of a war.

STATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

On the 22nd the resolution adopted on the 18th by the General Council convoked to deliberate on the Note of Conference, and composed of all the members of all the Ministries, Viziers, Ulemas, Pashas, Ministers of the Army and Navy and other dignitaries of the empire, was notified. This resolution, unanimously adopted, shows that the Sublime Porte having chosen war to save order, her rights, and integrity, will not reject peace if these conditions are guaranteed to her for the future. This notification adds that communication of this decision has been made to the representatives of the Four Powers, that the state of war still continues, and that not even an armistice has been concluded, and that dispatches, announcing what had passed, had been sent to the commanders of the armies in Europe and Asia, that no stop should be put to the military operations. This proclamation has calmed the public mind. The insurrection of the previous day had decided Government to fetch from Beicos three Turkish steam-frigates, and a division of the united fleet. The movement of the Sophtas has strengthened the hands of the war party, and the Seraskier retains office.

It appears that there was not much exaggeration as to the menacing character of the demonstration made by the Softas. The public indignation was particularly directed against Redschid Pasha, as this Minister was believed to be the most ardent supporter of a pacific policy. It is stated that at one moment he was in considerable danger, and that he was obliged to keep himself concealed for some time. It was very probably under these circumstances that he tendered his resignation. When the tumult was at its height, General Prim and Lord Dudley Stuart (so one of the letters says) presented themselves alone, and without any protection whatever, in the midst of the excited assemblage, and it is but just to say that they were both received, even at that critical moment, not only without menace or insult being offered to them, but with marks of respect. 150 of the most hot-headed of the ring-leaders were arrested, and sentenced to banishment to Candia.

The changes in the Turkish Ministry are Riza Pasha taking the place of the Capudan Pasha (as Minister of Marine), dismissed in consequence of the affair at Sinope; and Halil Pasha, brother-in-law of the Sultan, entering, as we should say, the Cabinet without a portfolio. The new members are both men of extraordinary vigour and capacity. Riza Pasha, before the present hostilities, would have been considered belonging to the peace party, but he is now the most determined advocate of war à l'outrance. Of Halil Pasha the same may be said.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Osman Pasha, commander of the Turkish squadron destroyed at Sinope, has died at Sebastopol after having suffered two amputations.

The Rostikoff, the Russian 120-gun ship, was lost after the engagement at Sinope.

Lord Dudley Stuart has been presented in due form to the Grand Vizier and the Minister of Foreign Affairs. General Prim has had an interview with the Sultan to take leave, on his return to France.

A private letter from Alexandria, of Dec. 22, says "That when the Pasha of Egypt heard of the affair of Sinope, he immediately ordered six frigates, five corvettes, and two brigs to be armed in order to replace the vessels lost by the Turkish fleet."

The Consul-General of England has left Bucharest, and gone to the head-quarters of Omar Pasha at Rustchuk.

During the night of the 21st, a Russian war-schooner, the Aloupka, driven by a gale into the Bosphorus, has been captured by Mustapha Bey, commander of the fort of Anadoli Korak.

The Russian clergy have offered to the Czar, from the large church property, a sum of 20,000,000 roubles towards the war expenses with Turkey.

The Russian Colonel, Kovalensky, who so success-

fully agitated in Montenegro before the war broke out last year, has been there again. His nominal business was to present some vessels for the National Church, given by the Emperor Nicholas.

A letter from Malta, of the 30th, announces that the military commandant had just received orders from Government to make the necessary arrangements at the arsenal for the establishment of a reserve of artillery and ammunition, which was about to be sent from England.

FRANCE.

As war approaches, Louis Napoleon abounds in personal civilities to the Russian Ambassador. On New Year's Day he said to M. de Kisseleff, "I trust, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, that the year 1854 may be a good year for us all." The evening before there was a grand ball at the Princess Mathilde's, to usher in the new year. The Emperor and the Empress, who were present, showed great attention to the Ministers of Russia and Austria, and the Empress was graciously pleased to dance with both M. Hubner and M. de Kisseleff. This latter, also, had the honour of waltzing with the Princess Mathilde.

The ball at the Tuileries on Wednesday night was attended by about 2,000 persons, among whom were several British and other foreign officers. The Emperor opened the ball with the Princess Mathilde, and the Empress danced with Prince Napoleon. The Emperor appeared to be fatigued and dull—such at least was the impression of many of the visitors. The Empress did not look so well as on the evening of the receptions.

The *Moniteur* of Saturday publishes a decree calling into active service all the young soldiers available under the second portion of the contingent of the class of 1852. The number of this force is variously estimated at 45,000 to 50,000. This decree is substantially an augmentation of the effective force of the army by from 30,000 to 40,000 men.

It is believed that a *corps d'armée* of 70,000 will be sent to Turkey in case of war being formally declared against Russia. It is said that two considerable camps will be formed: one, the most important, at Adrianople, and other probably close to Constantinople. The former to be under the command of General Canrobert, the other under the immediate direction of the Minister of War, who will, in fact, command the whole expeditionary army. The combined fleets will be commanded by Admiral Dundas.

It is stated that an addition of 10,000 men will be made to the French navy.

In the present state of the Eastern question there is considerable significance in the publication by the *Moniteur* of an article from the Austrian *Lloyd's*, written in a spirit evidently hostile to France and England, and affirming that the Emperor of Austria declared to the Czar at Olmutz, that in case of the difference between Russia and Turkey leading to an European war, he would pursue no other policy than that traced by the *general interest of Germany*. The italics are the *Moniteur's*. This is but the first of a series of articles from the same journal which the *Moniteur* proposes to publish, on account, as it says, of the great importance of the part which Austria is called upon to play in the affairs of the East, and of the great influence which the Vienna *Lloyd's* exercises upon the public opinion in Germany. It is believed that Louis Napoleon had sent a very peremptory requisition to the Court of Vienna to declare itself unequivocally on one side or the other.

The Count de Peyronnet, formerly Minister of Justice under Louis XVIII., and Minister of the Interior under Charles X., at the time of the famous ordinances, has just expired at his seat of Montferand, near Bordeaux, aged seventy-seven.

A serious difference of opinion has arisen on a point of military discipline and religious liberty between a general commanding a division of the army of Lyons and a colonel of one of the regiments under him. The colonel marched the whole regiment in garrison at Belfort to mass on Christmas-day, having, however, according to one account, given previous notice that any man who from religious scruples might object, would not be compelled to attend. The general of the district, General Reibell, who happens to be a Protestant, considered that the Colonel had exceeded his authority in calling his men to parade for the purpose of being marched as a body to any place of worship. He placed the Colonel under arrest for eight days, and caused an order of the day, stating his reasons, to be read at the head of the regiment. The Colonel has appealed to the Minister at War. Meanwhile the matter is taken up with considerable warmth as a religious party question by the local journals.

Fires seem to be more numerous in Paris than even in London. In one day lately, the pompiers, besides having to extinguish fires in twenty-eight chimneys, had nine serious conflagrations to combat between mid-day and six o'clock next morning.

THE WEST INDIES.

Our files of the *Royal Gazette* (Demerara) and *Morning Journal* (Jamaica), which are the only ones that have come to hand, contain much that will be of interest to our readers. The former, which has long been the organ of the Local Government, continues to deplore the apathy which still prevails relative to drainage, and a plentiful supply, in the City of Georgetown, of good water. In another paper, the editor states that freights have risen from 1*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.* per ton, and that many planters who are in the habit of selling their sugars in the colony, are thereby exposed to great inconvenience, and obliged to sell at a lower price, there being few buyers, for want of ships to convey it to a market. So then it has come to this. The want of drainage, and a plentiful supply of good water render the city and wharves unhealthy. Fevers, agues, and, at last, yellow fever and cholera,

are the necessary results. Seamen object to come, and shipowners refuse to send their ships, when they can get other freights, to countries in which seamen have died off like rotten sheep, and at last the owners of the estates, in Belgravia, and in their country seats in England and Scotland, are made to feel that to neglect to care for those who labour to cultivate their canes, make and ship their sugar, and act as their agents, is, in the end, costly for themselves. Dr. Blair, Surgeon-General of British Guiana, who has had more practice and experience of disease and cure, perhaps, than any other man in the colony, thus wrote a few months since to a gentleman in England: "The advantages, however, of a general system of covered drainage to us would not be confined to mere money profits. With the peculiarly fortunate angle at which the façade of the colony lies to the trade-winds (and which, under present circumstances, renders the colony habitable) British Guiana thoroughly drained would take its place among the healthiest climates on the face of the earth."

A little reflection, humanity, wisdom, and energy, on the part of those who govern in the Colonial-office, in Parliament, and in the Colonies, coming in aid of the exertions of the friends of freedom who met at Exeter Hall in such numbers when Mrs. Stowe, the Duchess of Sutherland, and Lord Shaftesbury were there, would very soon lead to such a change in the state of our colonies as would do more eventually to put an end to slavery all over the world than a thousand lives expended in complaining of what other men do, or fail to do.

We find honourable mention in this paper of the exertions of the missionaries, and especially one of them, who is well known to many of the readers of the *Nonconformist*. Little do the rich members of our Missionary Societies at home, who think much of a few guineas a year to support a particular mission, know of the risks, the labours, the sicknesses, the reproaches which for a long time such men as Mr. Wallbridge, Mr. Ketley, and their coadjutors had to bear, or of the beneficent work they are now performing in countries, which may ultimately become empires. Who sowed the seeds of truth and liberty, and order and peace in America, but the Pilgrim Fathers, of whom the world was not worthy? During the reign of a former Governor in British Guiana, the inspector-general of police was heard to say he kept a sharp eye on this Mr. Wallbridge, and should catch him by-and-by, and an official and confidant of the Governor exclaimed, "There will be no peace for this country until some of these missionaries are hung." What may we not hope for from such a change of temper in reference to faithful and pious men on the part of the rulers of these lands? We are told that Lord Harris, the Governor of Trinidad, lately laid the foundation-stone of a Baptist chapel in that colony, and expressed his high approval of the intelligent labours of the founders.

We have had (says the *Royal Gazette*) repeated occasion lately to notice the zeal of the Dissenting clergy in their efforts to furnish elements of thought to the rising generation, especially in the city. Eminent among those men of the age, allusion has had repeatedly to be made to the Rev. Mr. Wallbridge. This gentleman, zealous in all seasons, appears to seize every opportunity of conveying to a class who might with difficulty obtain it otherwise, or more correctly speaking, not obtain it at all, that knowledge with which his own mind is stored, and without some appreciation of which man cannot know how fearfully and how wonderfully he is made. On the evening of Thursday Mr. Wallbridge addressed to the "British Guiana Mutual Improvement Society" a second Lecture on Human Physiology. The audience was a large one, and the manner in which the subject was treated ensured the most earnest attention. The lecturer contrived, with consummate ability, to suit himself to every individual listener. He refreshed the memory of the most learned, while in simple and beautiful language, so as to be comprehended by everybody, he explained those parts of the physical organisation dependent on the healthy circulation of the blood. His lecture, which was illustrated by diagrams, was received at its conclusion with the most grateful expressions of applause.

A correspondent at Grenada observes: "The Plantations continue to look well, and saving the ravages of the deluging rains noticed in our last Fortnightly Review, the prospects of the planter are better than might have been expected with the great disadvantage he labours under from the absence of efficient and continuous labour. The floods which occurred in the beginning of this month were followed by upwards of a week's dry weather, and the canes were beginning to show symptoms of arrested vegetation, when, a few days ago, the fields in several districts were visited with a series of welcome showers."

From Trinidad we learn from the local paper (the *Trinidadian*): "Our merchants and planters are preparing themselves for the next crop, which to all appearances will be very plentiful. But the market is almost bare of necessary supplies for the planters. Five or six cargoes of lumber, and two or three of shooks and staves, would meet with immediate sale at high prices. Our lumber yards are empty, and white pine boards sold during this week as high as forty dollars per thousand (retail). With splendid forests in the island, it is an anomaly to remain dependant for a supply of lumber, staves, shingles, and hoops, upon importations from North America. There is neither want of the raw material nor of the necessary labour to work two or three saw-mills. But the entire industrial force (intelligence, capital, and labour) of the island is at present absorbed in the production of sugar and cocoa. We leave out of sight that the cost of producing our staple articles is not only dependant upon obtaining cheap field labour, but also upon obtaining cheap supplies of those articles which are necessary in the manufacture and transport of our staples. Field labour has been reduced to its minimum price by the importation of Asiatic labourers, but whatever savings are effected by the planters on this item, are

likely to be absorbed by the extravagant high prices which they will have to pay for supplies from abroad."

From Jamaica we have satisfactory accounts of the labours of benevolent men. A lecture will be delivered to-morrow (says the *Morning Journal*) on the subject of "the Bible in Spanish America." We understand that the Rev. Mr. Crowe has laboured for many years in circulating Spanish Bibles in the central American States, and especially at Guatamala, whence he was violently expelled in the year 1847; he is now in this city, on his way back to the sphere of his former operations, and is anxious during his short sojourn to awaken in this community a feeling of interest with regard to the spiritual destitution of our Spanish neighbours.

The Rev. Mr. Hogg, Presbyterian minister, thus writes respecting the liberality of a congregation of labourers in the centre of Jamaica:—

I have the charge of a Presbyterian congregation in Manchester—that of New Broughton. My people are almost entirely day labourers, though in general very industrious. I proposed to them yesterday week to make a collection for China. I reminded them that on the 1st of August, 1834, the British and Foreign Bible Society had presented every one of them who could read, with a well-bound copy of the Testament and Psalms, and that I thought they should testify their gratitude to that noble society, by returning a contribution to them, on this their jubilee year; and I proposed that the sum raised should specially be with a view to China. Yesterday was our Communion Sabbath. An ordinary collection was made at the close of the sermon, and amounted to 5*l.* 10*s.* The collection for Testaments for China was made at the close of the Communion Service, and amounted to 8*l.* and upwards.

Many of the readers of the *Nonconformist* will probably remember a Mr. Daughtrey, who was formerly a very active member, and we think officer, of the Religious Tract Society. He went to Jamaica as a Special Justice, and wrote such admirable reports, that Lord Sligo spoke of him as the very best magistrate in the island, and sent his nephew to reside near him, that he might be prepared to act as a Stipendiary Justice under Mr. Daughtrey's guidance. The latter is now Inspector of Prisons, and has proposed to remedy one of the many great evils which still exist in Jamaica by founding an Agricultural School of Industry.

What right would the landed proprietors of Jamaica have to ask Parliament to lend the public money to them on the security of taxes to be paid in part by the poor, to enable them to send to India and China for labourers, if (according to Mr. Daughtrey's statement) they were to continue to neglect to train the orphans and neglected youths in their own cities?

To make up their sea-dams; to thorough-drain the lands, so as to make them more productive and healthy; to introduce such improved machinery as would enable them to double the quantity of sugar, and to grow cotton, tobacco, rice, and corn so abundantly, and so cheaply, as to enable us in England to do without slave-grown produce, and still to maintain in all its integrity free trade: for such purposes, every man and woman possessed of true benevolence and wisdom would be willing to make a sacrifice; but not to do, or cause to be done, injustice to those whose freedom Great Britain has purchased; and resolves to maintain and secure.

The House of Assembly has voted the supplies for a year, and settled an improved tariff; but, in regard to responsible government, does not seem to have made very satisfactory progress. The *Falmouth Post*, a North-side paper, published in the town in which the late Mr. Knibb played so conspicuous a part, thus writes on the subject:—

The establishment of responsible government is as far off as ever. The committee to whom was referred the Governor's message of the 25th October, respecting the amendment of our "vicious constitution," has made a report, which, in accordance with parliamentary language, "lies on the table," but no one can tell when it will be taken up, for it is evident that honourable members are in no great hurry to deal with it. Time, we are told, is required for reflection, and we learn from reliable authority, that with regard to the change in the administration of the affairs of the colony, there are almost as many schemes concocted as there are members in the Assembly. Mr. Jackson's report suggests the appointment of one Minister of State, to be selected by the Crown, and responsible to the people. This suggestion is not likely to be adopted, for it is reasonably urged, that one man will not be able, whatever be the amount of his talent and industry, to undertake the onerous and difficult task of providing for, and superintending, every institution of the land. One party recommends two Ministers—one of finance in the Assembly, and one for general purposes in the Council: another party declares that one in the Council will do, but that three will be found barely sufficient in the Assembly. Why not have two in the Council, and three at least in the Assembly? asks an honourable gentleman, who is strongly suspected of hankering after the loaves and fishes. And thus day after day is lost in unprofitable discussion, with the assurance too, that until the contemplated change is effected, there is not any probability of other measures being advanced much farther than they are at present.

On the other hand, the *Morning Journal*, after describing the ruinous consequences of the policy pursued by the late leader of the members of the Assembly, says:—

The repairing of these breaches must first occupy the present majority, who, having the numerical strength of the House with them, should at once adopt, *totidem verbis*, all the recommendations of Sir H. Barkly and the Duke of Newcastle, whose principles are admitted by the Committee on Responsible Government, but embodied in a clumsy machinery as contrasted with the model set up in England.

AMERICA.

There has been another disastrous fire at New York. It broke out, on the 27th of December, in some warehouses by the water-side, and was fed by a furious gale. The flames, impelled by the wind, seemed fairly

to leap towards the shipping; and soon that noble ship, the *Great Republic*, of 4,000 tons burden, with nearly a full cargo, was on fire. She was scuttled, but the water proved too shallow, so she continued to burn, her masts going by the board. The packet ships, *Joseph Walker*, *De Witt Clinton*, *Red Rover*, and *White Squall* soon fell a prey to the flames. The amount of property destroyed is variously estimated at from one to two millions of dollars.

The *New York Herald* states that new guano islands had been discovered in the Caribbean Sea. The discovery had been kept a secret. Several vessels had been despatched from the United States, and had returned with full cargoes; and the *Herald* expected shortly to be able to lay before its readers a full statement of all the circumstances connected with the discovery.

The Committee of the House of Assembly had unanimously resolved to present Captain Ingraham with a medal for his conduct in the *Kossta* affair.

Cincinnati had been the scene of a riotous demonstration against Monsignor Bedini, the Pope's Nuncio, who was on a visit to Archbishop Purcell, of that city, and officiated in the cathedral. A most violent animosity, it seems, is entertained towards M. Bedini by a body of Germans in the city called the "Society of Freemen," and about 500 members of this society assembled at their hall, and, having organised, marched in a body to the vicinity of the Archbishop's residence, with the supposed intention of doing personal violence to the Nuncio. The chief of police having received an intimation of the movement, retained the entire police force at the watchhouse, which is situated opposite the Archbishop's residence. As the "Freemen" approached they set up a dismal groan, accompanied by shouting and discordant music. When the procession was passing the watchhouse, the police, at the word of command, rushed upon it, and each arrested a man. A general *melee* began. Many shots were fired, and shouts and execrations filled the air. Fourteen of the rioters were wounded, of whom one has died.

Intelligence has been received at Washington, that filibustero expeditions against Cuba are secretly preparing, both at New Orleans and New York; and a telegraphic dispatch adds that the President has transmitted orders for the arrest of the ringleaders in both cities. Whether this be really true to the full extent, or a mere rumour spread abroad by the Cuban Junta, it is difficult to say.

The miners in California are doing well, public health is good, and business active. The public debt of the State is 3,197,688 dols. Two shocks of earthquake had been felt, but no lives lost. There are twenty churches of all denominations in San Francisco, yet the Sabbath breaking is described as almost universal. Another Sonora expedition is forming, which will consist chiefly of Germans.

Letters from the city of Mexico, dated the 17th, mention that Santa Anna had issued a decree accepting the Guadalupe declaration, but takes the title of "Most Serene Highness" instead of "Captain-General"; he has also decreed that in case of his death or moral disqualification he shall name his successor.

It has been definitively announced on the part of the Canadian Government by its organs, that the Clergy Reserves question is not to be finally settled before an appeal is made to the country upon it.

Havannah accounts to the 18th December had been received at New Orleans. General Canedo sailed for Spain on the 13th, and it was reported that during his administration—one year and a half—he had amassed upwards of 1,000,000 dollars.

General Pezuela had yet done nothing, except make the necessary appointments to office. He had begun well.

AUSTRALIA.

The advices from Melbourne and Sydney by the *Francis Henty* and *Walter Hood* reach to the middle of October, or about a fortnight later than those received on Thursday *via* Panama. Their contents are alike satisfactory as regards the gold production, the import markets, and the rapid rise going on in the value of all descriptions of established property. In the neighbourhood of Sydney, it is said, the most extraordinary prices continued to be obtained for land and houses, the state of the labour-market interfering with building operations, while, at the same time, there is the greatest demand for any permanent means of employing capital. Investments of all kinds were consequently sought with eagerness, and very large sums were being paid for sheep and cattle stations. The number of persons going to England with realised fortunes is likewise stated to be great, and several such instances are mentioned where the amount possessed ranges from 100,000*l.* to 200,000*l.*

The details furnished on the present occasion regarding the opening up of the river Murray by the *Lady Augusta* steamer give the prospect of facilities of transit for the produce of the interior lands of South Australia, Victoria, and New South Wales that must exercise an incalculable influence on the future growth of each of those colonies. According to a private letter from one of the parties engaged in the expedition, dated Swan-hill, New South Wales (a point on the river 1,300 miles above Adelaide, in South Australia), the success of the voyage had been beyond all expectation. It was believed that the vessel might proceed nearly 500 miles further, up to Albury, but it was not intended at present to steam an additional distance of more than 100 miles. Arrangements had already been made to take down 80,000*l.*'s worth of wool on the return voyage. The width and volume of the river have excited surprise, and, as regards that portion of it which runs through the province of South Australia, it was expected the Governor would have its margin surveyed forthwith and offered for sale, with rights of some back run for

cattle, so as to promote its settlement. The natives met with were friendly, and of a better class than those about Adelaide.

At Bendigo, the diggers are persevering, and the increase in the quantity coming down shows that they are being well rewarded. At Ballarat, the yield is still large, and the diggers contented with the result of their labours. Forest Creek is attracting more attention than has been the case for some time past. Some experienced hands had started for that field, giving it the preference to all the others. The scarcity of water prevents the Goulburn diggings from being thoroughly tested, still a fair quantity of gold is being weekly sent down, for the number of diggers actually at work. The yield from M'Yor is small, and business is represented as dull. Great results are expected from the forthcoming campaign at the Ovens; and the numbers tending thither increases as the dry season draws near.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* gives the act passed by the Legislative Council for the regulation of the gold-fields, as the most important matter connected with New South Wales since the sailing of the *Shanghai*. By the terms of this act, the license fee to be paid for liberty to mine and dig for gold is reduced from 30*s.* to 10*s.* a month.

The Legislative Council had awarded a further sum of 1,000*l.* to Mr. Hargreaves, as the first practical discoverer of gold in the colony, and also 1,000*l.* to be divided equally between Messrs. William Tom, jun., James Tom, and John Lister, in consideration of their instrumentalities, in a subordinate degree, in the discovery of gold in this colony in the year 1851. The sum of 1,000*l.* has also been voted by the Council as a gratuity to the Rev. W. B. Clarke, on the completion of his geological exploration.

Three of the ringleaders of the daring gang of mounted highwaymen who stopped the M'Yor gold escort, and plundered it of nearly 10,000*l.* of treasure, suffered death on the scaffold at Melbourne gaol on the 4th of October, in the presence of a large concourse of persons. The culprits were notorious London thieves, who had been sent out under sentence of transportation. Neither of them made any confession as to their guilt.

THE RELIGIOUS MOVEMENT IN CHINA.

In the charge of the Bishop of Victoria delivered at Shanghai, we find some interesting references to the religious opinions of the Chinese insurgents:—

The rebel leaders are evidently men in earnest. Their unsparing destruction of idols—shocking the minds of common people generally, and of the female population universally—would be impolitic in men with less lofty aims than those of a reformation of the national religion, and strikingly exhibits their own belief in their divine mission to extirpate image-worship and to propagate the knowledge of the one true God. Their compulsory prohibition of opium smoking, and their threatened exclusion of this contraband article from the country, preclude the supposition of their being actuated by a selfish and calculating policy, bringing them into danger of eventual collision with foreigners, as well as pledging them to an onslaught on the most cherished sensual habits of their countrymen. They appear to be animated with all the religious fervour which inspired Mahomet in his course of victory, and to be tinctured with the austere morality which soured and incensed the Puritans against their dissolute adversaries. To expect from men of whom we have as yet no certain knowledge that any of them have been baptised—who have no spiritual teachers—whose knowledge of Christianity is derived more from the Old Testament than the New—whose views of religious zeal and political propagandism appear to be drawn rather from the warlike example of Joshua at the head of the armies of Israel than from the writings and sufferings of Paul, the apostle of Jesus Christ—to expect from such a body of men a perfect exhibition of the gentle, forgiving spirit of the Gospel, and a full harvest of the fruits of the spirit of holiness, is to measure them prematurely by the standard of well-instructed Christians, and to apply to them the rule of long-established Christian communities.

Amid all the error, the enthusiasm, the fanaticism, and the intolerance which are perceptible among them, they have given forth, in their public manifestoes to the reading population of China, sentiments and views of moral and religious truth such as have never before sounded in the ears of this people. . . . The various styles of writing observable in their books, and the extravagant pretensions proclaimed in some of their edicts, lead to the conclusion that probably two classes of Christian professors are to be found in the movement—sincere enthusiasts, on the one hand, impelled by a conviction of their divine mission to extirpate false religion from the empire, and political adventurers, on the other hand, less palpably under the influence of religious motives, and willing to employ the arts of kingcraft or the pious frauds of a middle-age Christianity for overawing the multitude and banishing treachery from the host. Many facts, however, which have been ascertained respecting them, exclude the supposition that such adherents as the latter class form a general specimen of the religious character of the insurgents. The lawless rabble of members of the Triad Society—who have recently risen against the local authorities and captured the cities of Shanghai and Amoy, and whom we have seen to be addicted to the practices of idol-worship and opium-smoking—are in no way to be confounded or identified with the character and cause of T'ae-ping-wang. They have endeavoured to conciliate foreigners in this city by hoisting the flag of T'ae-ping-wang, and by issuing a copy of one of his religious proclamations. But it is a mere device intended to excite foreign sympathy.

A recent visitor, an American medical missionary, relates of the insurgent forces within the city of Chin Keang, that among them the Sabbath was kept holy (although by an astronomical error in their calendar, they kept as such the seventh instead of the first day of the week)—public religious services were regularly held—appointed officers, like Cromwell's generals of old, preached to the troops—and the general signs of order, morality, and decorum prevailed. At each dawn of day, the rebel garrison assembled for prayer in the various military guard-houses—and there, to the sound of native music, they sang hymns, chants, and doxologies to the Trinity, all kneeling devoutly in prayer to the Almighty.

A few days since the *Times* published a letter from a naval officer, dated Amoy, Nov. 3, decidedly confirming the important fact, that the maritime insurgent movement is quite independent of that which has originated in the interior, and been hitherto limited to it. The writer left Shanghai in September, at which time that place was in the hands of "a set of insurgents who belong to the Triad Society, but had declared for T'ae-ping-wang." "Three long months," Shanghai had been "besieged," after a fashion, by some 20,000 Imperialists, who confined their operations, however, to burning the surrounding villages, and had made no impression upon the nearer suburbs, though sometimes defended by not more than 1,000 men. Formosa also is in the hands of the Triad Society, as well as Amoy; and these movements, the writer says, "are quite independent of that which has passed through China."

The focus of this (Triad) Society is Singapore; but its members are to be found in all parts of the Southern Hemisphere; still loving China, and bound to it by many ties, angry at being expatriated, coming back, from time to time, to see their friends, wives, and sisters, whom they are not allowed to take with them, and each time more hostile to the Mantchoos, for the degradation they subject their people, and, indeed, themselves too. The only women who leave China are a very few that pass through Hong-Kong; and these of the lowest. There are 40,000 Chinamen at Singapore, and only a few hundred women, and they mostly half-caste: no doubt, a man might smuggle his wife away, but they would destroy her family, or sell them into slavery, for there are a large number of female slaves in China.

There is a marked difference between the people here and at Shanghai, and those at Nankin: the former make no profession of changing their religion, though they state that they are willing to take their law even on that point from the people of Nankin; and their liberal views seem to be the result of intercourse with Europeans, rather than from understanding the true principles of civilisation; but they all have this characteristic difference from the mandarins and their party—that they have ceased to be exclusive, and treat all Europeans with marked civility, while the mandarins are, if possible, more distrustful and exclusive than ever.

The writer deems it quite impossible that the Mantchoos can recover or again govern the country; and he differs from the European traders who think that the country will be long in settling down under the new rule. In refutation of those accounts which ignorantly represent the Mantchoo Government to have been mild and paternal, the writer draws, evidently from personal observation, a picture of the misery, oppression, and cruelty under which the mass of the population were groaning, and of the "systematised crimes" which were a source of revenue—such as more than sufficiently accounts for the rapid and general spread of the revolt. "China, under the Mantchoo rule, had filled up the measure of her iniquities."

The inland transit was becoming so insecure in November, that the teas which formerly went to Canton, were finding an outlet at Foo Chow, which is much nearer to the tea districts. When once they find their way there, the writer thinks it probable they will not return to Canton. The Imperialists there are strong from their wealth, and the new Government may probably cut off the inland trade to bring them to terms.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The exportation of grain from Poland is prohibited till Aug. 1.

On the 5th inst. the Queen of Spain was safely delivered of a Princess.

During 1853 no fewer than sixty-six emigrant ships left Antwerp, carrying 15,262 passengers.

No fewer than 417 almanacks, or 4,000,000 copies, have been issued in France for the present year.

Captain Inglefield, under whom Lieutenant Bellot served as a volunteer, has had an audience of the French Emperor. So has Dr. Bowring.

In consequence of a report by the Committee of Public Health, the Austrian Government has allowed butchers to sell horse-meat.

Undisturbed by the sounds of approaching war, the Federal Diet at Frankfort has been discussing an invention for the fabrication of artificial coffee.

"Uncle Tom" has been introduced to the Athenians in old Greece, under the gentlemanly title of "Omparpas Thomas."

Wolves have been seen in the forest of Soignies, within two leagues of Brussels. Battues for their destruction have been issued.

All the most important towns of France, Belgium, and Germany, will in future be open, both by day and night, Sunday included, for the transmission of telegraphic despatches.

Admiral Corry, on the day before Christmas-day signalled the British fleet in the Tagus to put to sea. By some mismanagement the *St. Jean d'Acre*, Captain Keppel, fouled the *Desperate*, Captain Chambers. The *Desperate* was a wreck, and some lives were lost—how many is not stated. The fleet was recalled. A court-martial will be held on the commanders.

The latest intelligence from the coast of Africa does not improve the position of affairs. The new King of Lagos, we are told, had paid a visit of respect to Commodore Bruce, accompanied by many Abbeokutan chiefs; but Kossiki was doing his utmost to subvert the legitimate authority, and was reported to have about 10,000 men behind the town, and threatening to attack it.

In Spain it has long been the custom to clothe the dead in the costume of some religious order; and at Torregon de Velasco, near Madrid, it has lately become the practice to dress the bodies of young men, who die before marriage, in female attire, to deck them with flowers, and to place a branch of palm in their hand, though that is the attribute of virgins and martyrs. The clergy have energetically preached

against this latter custom, but in vain; and the police, in consequence, now allow no burial to take place without ascertaining that the dead are properly attired.

The cotton-spinners of Rouen propose to combat Free-trade by Protectionist pamphlets; and it is said that they intend to tax each operative in a small sum to pay the expense.

A telegraphic message, in anticipation of the Overland mail, has arrived, and brings the following summary of news:—

The intelligence from Burmah was most contradictory. A report was current that the Burmese had recaptured Pegu, and a combined movement against the British was to take place on the 20th December; whilst another statement was that the war party at Ava is too weak to do anything.

The Russians are said to be at Khiva, and the Peshawur force has been increased to 13,500 men.

The Afreeds of the Kohat Pass have given in and accepted our terms.

In China the insurgents have evacuated Amoy, and the Imperialists have made horrible massacre there. Canton is quiet. Exchange 5.1.

There has been a mutiny on board the flag-ship of Admiral Pellaw at Hong-Kong, which seems to have been attended with serious consequences. The following account of it has been published by the *Daily News*:—"On the 8th November, the crew of the flag-ship Winchester, with the Admiral, Pellaw, on board, then lying at Hong-Kong, asked respectfully for some leave to be given them on shore, as they had not had any for a long time; this the Admiral refused, and mutiny ensued, for on piping the hammocks down not a man obeyed. The drum then beat to quarters with the same result; the marines and officers were then armed and sent between decks, where the utmost confusion prevailed, the seamen rolling shot about and throwing missiles. Before any kind of order could be restored, seventeen of the crew had been wounded by the officers: ten of the wounded were sent to the hospital next morning; also a funeral took place, supposed to be the body of one of the wounded. The captain, Fitzgerald, received a wound over one eye, which was supposed to be accidental, as he was very popular with the crew. The sensation at Hong-Kong regarding this dreadful and disgraceful affair is intense. The American frigate, Macedonia, was lying in the harbour at the time."

POLITICAL FACTS AND GOSSIP.

The embarkation of the 21st and 63rd regiments for the Cape of Good Hope has been countermanded.

Mr. John Sadleir, M.P., has resigned his office as one of the Junior Lords of the Treasury.

A Cabinet Council was held on Thursday, which sat four hours. The only Minister absent was the Marquis of Lansdowne.

It is in contemplation, we (*Scotsman*) have reason to believe, to institute a new Great Officer of State in the shape of a Minister at War.

Alexander Somerville, the "Whistler at the Plough," has published a fierce attack on his quondam associates, the Leaguers, in the spirit of a discarded and disappointed servant.

"The report," says the *Globe*, "that the Reform Bill is to be shelved, which, after murmurings for some time in various places, begins to make itself heard in society, is without a shadow of authority."

The inhabitants of Chester held a meeting on Wednesday, under the presidency of the mayor, and resolved that England would be justified in taking instant steps for an open declaration of war against Russia.

It is stated that a Parliamentary Oaths Bill has been prepared by Ministers, which is calculated to admit Jews to Parliament, and will certainly be carried forward in both Houses, *pari passu*, with the Reform measure.

On dit that Lord Harris, whose period of service as Governor of Trinidad will shortly expire, has been offered the Governorship of Madras. Captain Charles Elliot, R.N., now Governor of Bermuda, is spoken of as the new Governor of Trinidad.

The Commissioners on Maynooth College have resumed their labours. On Friday, the witnesses under examination were selected from the members of the Priests' Protection Society, and included one person who has been for fifteen years a Roman Catholic clergyman in the diocese of Limerick.

Dr. Brown, Vicar-General of the Roman Catholic diocese of Derry, has made a return to the Commissioners of Income-tax, to "show his respect for the law;" but at the same time he does not admit that any commissioner or number of commissioners have any right to levy taxes on his income. Moreover, the Government shan't have the money. "Should my income hereafter amount to 100l. a year—and, from the present aspect of the country, I think it will—I will appoint a committee, to be called the Income Committee. I will give them power to receive contributions for my support until the sums received amount to 99l. 19s., with strict orders to receive no more for me, but to hand over any sum that may come afterwards to some charitable purpose; for I can 'live passing rich on 90l. a year.'"

South Staffordshire will be contested by Lord Paget, a Whig, and Viscount Ingestre, a Conservative. The former prosecuted his canvass vigorously throughout last week, notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather. In his speech at Willenhall, he avowed himself in favour of an extension of the free-trade principle to the fullest extent, and of further reforms in our representative system. Lord Ingestre arrived at Stafford, from the United States, on Tuesday, but, owing to the state of the weather, has not yet commenced a general canvass of the constituency. The noble lord, in his address to the electors, says he will especially direct his attention, in opposition to theoretical speculation, to all practical attempts to raise the social condition of the industrial classes, by education, the improvement of their dwellings, and such like

measures as may tend to elevate their character, make them good and loyal subjects, and increase the influence of morality and religion.

We are assured, on what we believe to be good authority, that Lord Hardinge yesterday gave in his resignation as Commander-in-Chief of the army; that his lordship is to be succeeded by Lord Raglan; and that General Brown will resume his former appointment as Adjutant-General.—*Morning Post*, January 5. [The *Globe* of the same day contradicts the report.]

According to the *Liverpool Albion*, the Derbyites are to be regularly re-organised as "Her Majesty's opposition." For this end, as we gather from a very competent informant, letters have been sent, some to Lord Derby, some to Mr. Disraeli, but in the aggregate numbering not less than 260, from members of the Lower House, proffering an unreserved support to those leaders on political grounds generally, but more especially in a policy the reverse of that which is supposed to have hitherto actuated, and to be likely to continue to actuate, the present advisers of the Crown, responsible and irresponsible, ostensible and actual, in respect to Russia and the East. Besides these 260 avowed adherents, there are also, we understand, some twenty others, who, for lack of a more distinctive designation, we may call contingent auxiliaries, whose support on certain points is not to be held as binding them to any other than a defensive alliance.

The nomination of candidates for East Gloucestershire, consequent upon the elevation of the Marquis of Worcester to the Peerage by the death of the Duke of Beaufort, took place at Gloucester on Monday. About 3,000 persons were present. This is the first contested election that has occurred in East Gloucestershire for twenty years. Sir M. H. H. Beach (Conservative), and Mr. Holland (Liberal), were severally proposed as candidates, and addressed the meeting. The show of hands was declared to be in favour of Mr. Holland. A poll was demanded for Sir M. H. H. Beach, and appointed to take place next Thursday. This will be the first trial of the new act for limiting the poll at county elections to one day. A considerable portion of the division extends over what is called "the hill district," spreading across the cotswolds to the borders of Oxfordshire, and including the towns and places of Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold, Bourton, Chipping-Campden, &c. These districts are only accessible by hilly roads, which have for the past week been blocked up by the drifted snow, and, had it not been for the thaw of Saturday, great difficulty must have been experienced in bringing the voters to the poll.

THE STRIKES IN THE NORTH.

It now appears, from the published resolutions of the Lancashire masters, that five per cent. on all the wages paid will be the rate of contribution for the support of the Preston manufacturers.

Fewer meetings than usual were held last week, owing to the inclemency of the weather. The war has, however, been vigorously carried on by means of placards, a profusion of which have been issued by both parties. Perhaps the most important of these placards is one published by the powerloom weavers' committee, purporting to be a "List of the prices paid for weaving different fabrics of cloth, by the principal manufacturers of Preston, on the 1st March, 1853, compared with the rate of prices paid at Blackburn at the present period." This document, the committee say—

will give the public a clear understanding of the comparative difference that really does exist between the prices paid in Blackburn and those proposed to be paid in future by the manufacturers of Preston. It will likewise enable the public to discern the difference that is paid by one manufacturer in Preston for one fabric of cloth, and what is paid by another manufacturer of Preston for a similar fabric; and, strange as it may appear, while Messrs. Birley Brothers would only have to advance seven per cent. upon one sort to be equal to the Blackburn prices, Messrs. Birley, Swainson, and Co. would have to advance ten, nineteen, twenty-three, and twenty-six per cent. upon the different sorts that they make to be equal with Blackburn. It will also be found that less than ten per cent. would equalise the prices paid for some fabrics of cloth in Preston with the Blackburn prices, yet, taken as a whole, it would require considerably more than an advance of ten per cent. to be equal with the latter.

Deputations of spinners and self-actor minders have waited upon the heads of the firms by whom they were formerly employed. Almost every master in the town was seen personally, and at every place the hands were received with the utmost courtesy. As all the employers with whom communication was held are members of the association, the answer in most cases was that no steps could be taken towards a settlement of the dispute without a previous consultation with that body.

Mr. Hollins, proprietor of a small weaving establishment in Derby-street, and who is unconnected with the Masters' Association, but who closed his mill at the time of the general lock-out, has had an interview with his hands, and the result was expected to lead to an opening of that gentleman's works. In consequence of a "caution" from the operative's committee, however, not a single hand offered when the bell rang on Monday morning. Messrs. Paul Catterall and Co. (members of the Masters' Association) are said to have recently leased their extensive mills to Mr. Simpson, of Manchester; and it is reported that the new proprietor contemplates commencing work early in the ensuing month.

The returns show that the number of unemployed hands relieved last week from the trades' union fund was 15,721. The amount distributed in relief was 3,705l. 16s. 3d.; an increase of 761l. 8s. 3d. The extraordinary increase in the receipts of the weavers' committee enabled them to advance their payments 1s. 6d. per head, and to reserve a balance of 424l., after again giving 6d. each to 2,070 children (in addition to

the number mentioned above). The cardroom committee have also paid 37l. 1s. 9d. to 267 extra hands. Several of the other committees have likewise received and expended larger sums.

A meeting of the unemployed was convened on Saturday, the proceedings of which were somewhat protracted in consequence of the importance of the matters for discussion. The chairman remarked that some of the manufacturers talked of keeping their mills closed until May. If they did, they would find, on re-opening, that there were no hands left in Preston, and they might advertise the town "to let." (Hear, hear.) Mr. Cowell dwelt on the same ill prospect for the masters, and amused his hearers with an illustration of Manchester economics:—

I do think, at this time, that if ever a class of men were thoroughly duped, it is our late employers. (Hear, hear.) These masters, in other districts, are Free-traders. They belong to the school of Manchester. They wish to buy cheap and sell dear. They desire to keep everybody out of the market they possibly can in order that they may sell their own cloth a little higher. They have met in Manchester, and they have told our masters that they will give them five per cent. upon the wages they will have to pay every week. One day last week I was travelling up to Glossop, and I happened to come in contact with a respectable tradesman of the name of Ashton. This said Mr. Ashton told me he had been in conversation with a certain manufacturer, who had that day got an order for 5,000l. worth of goods for a China house, which one of the Preston masters had always been in the habit of supplying. The very Tuesday following, this Glossop manufacturer came down to Manchester to meet the Preston masters, saying, in effect, "Now lads, be hard; we'll support you." (Laughter and cheers.) Thus, you see, they know something about political economy. They have reduced their workpeople ten per cent.; the hands are working at the reduced rate, in anticipation of gaining an advance when the battle has been fought in Preston; and the employers are going to pay five per cent. to the Preston masters and pocket the other five themselves, at the same time selling their cloth a little dearer by keeping the Preston masters out of the market. (Hear, hear.) This is the position into which our late masters have been duped, and they are blindfolded to their own interests.

Reiterating his desire to bring the strike to a close—offering himself to retire from the struggle, if the hands could make a satisfactory bargain with the masters for themselves—he also repeated assurances of success:—

We have only to ask for money, and it is forthcoming; and if the manufacturers persist in their present course—and I hope they will not—we shall be able to pay you for six months to come, and I hesitate not to say we shall be in a position to raise you before many weeks are over. But some people say, "What chance have you now that the manufacturers' capital is brought to bear against you?" Why, what is the whole force they have in the field? About 100 men met in Manchester and promised to contribute five per cent. upon the wages paid to their hands. And what will that amount to? Why, it will not find the Preston masters in coal to keep their mills aired, much less pay interest upon the money they owe. And while these gentlemen are urging the Preston masters to be firm, as I said before, they are getting from them all the markets they possibly can. You may depend upon it that, if they kept closed for three months longer, there will be a dearth of hands when the mills are re-opened. By that time, Blackburn will want 3,000 hands, and in other places mills are being got ready with all possible dispatch. We receive letters almost every day asking for weavers. One gentleman wrote from Manchester for fifty, and another told me yesterday he required 100; and very likely both these persons had been promising to pay your masters five per cent. (Laughter.)

An adjourned meeting of the Wigan masters was held on Friday, when it was resolved that hands should be taken on only at the old terms. To this resolution, however, opposition was made by the representative of the largest firm in the district—the Messrs. Eckersley and Sons, and those gentlemen next day retired from the association, that they might be at liberty to make a permanent arrangement with their workpeople, who number upwards of 1,000, although by this step they might subject themselves to a penalty. What the nature of the bond forming the basis of the association is, and what the penalty or forfeit attaching to a withdrawal from it, before a specified time, has not been made public. In all, about 3,000 hands are now at work.

The dispute between the masters and the workmen in Glasgow city still continues, and nine hundred young persons, male and female, independent of adults, are consequently out of employment. A placard has been issued by the operative spinners' committee, in the name of the operative cotton spinners of Scotland, announcing their determination to resist the design of the seven employers by every legitimate means, and appealing for pecuniary assistance. In three days the committee had received, as subscriptions from the general public, the sum of 36l. 18s. 10d.

HEROISM AND LOSS OF LIFE AT A FIRE.

In the postscript of our last number, we briefly noticed that the extensive factory of Messrs. Kelsall, of Rochdale, was destroyed by fire on the preceding evening (Tuesday). It appears that the building consisted of four stories and an attic. The manufacture carried on is chiefly in flannels, and the whole of the first, second, and fourth stories and attic were filled with machinery for spinning, weaving, and other processes, belonging to Messrs. Kelsall, while the greater part of the third floor was let off as a carding-room to Mr. Thomas Stott. About 150 hands were employed in the concern, of whom twenty-four worked for Mr. Stott. At the Duncan-street end of the mill, over the engine-house, there was a machine in the third floor called a "devil," which is used in the first process of manufacturing for tearing asunder and cleaning the fibres of wool. This "devil" is separated from the rest of the machinery on the same floor by a wood par-

tion only. About an hour after the mill commenced running in the morning, or about seven o'clock, while Samuel Stott (son of the owner of the machine) and another man were at work at the "devil," the flame of a gaslight suddenly ignited some "floss," or light portion of the wool, flying about the room in the wind from the machine, and the fire communicated quickly with the wool in the machine itself. There is a bucket usually kept over the machine, and a pipe from a cistern of water on the roof was near, intended for use in case of fire; but on this occasion the bucket was out of place, and had to be sought below stairs. Some time was lost owing to this before water could be thrown on the flames, and much more valuable time was wasted in the first abortive attempt to extinguish the fire by these means, ere the police and the fire brigade of the town could be communicated with. Much time was again lost, owing to the river being frozen over, as well as the water in the street plugs. By the time the fire-engines were in full play, the fire was bursting from nearly all the front windows of the third storey in Smith-street. The operatives in the third storey had to pass almost through the fire to reach the staircase at the Duncan-street end of the mill, and were somewhat scorched in the effort; but those below escaped without difficulty. From some cause, those in the fourth story and the attic were not informed of their danger until this mode of escape was cut off by the spread of the fire. The result was that a rush was made to the windows of the different fronts of the rooms on the fourth and attic floors and to the roof by the operatives, who chiefly consisted of women and children, and a most appalling spectacle soon presented itself to those outside. The poor terrified creatures shrieked in an agony of terror, and held out their hands for succour, while the flames wrapped the walls beneath them from the windows upward. There were but few men among them, but three of these, Henry Ratcliffe, Richard Duckworth, and Thomas Taylor, acted most heroically in braving the heat of the fire to assist in lowering the women and children with ropes from the upper stories before they descended themselves. Ratcliffe, who was in the attic with fourteen children, got them up on the roof. He had obtained, we are told, a "kind of rope," nothing evidently specially adapted for the purpose; this he fastened to the frame in the attic, and for nearly twenty minutes stood calmly, the fire the whole time gaining ground, until, by encouragement and direction, he had succeeded in making the fourteen children use the rope as a means of descent. Not until this was done did this Rochdale hero think of his own safety. He then commenced his own descent, but, either owing to the failure of his own powers, or the breaking of the rope, he fell from a considerable height. He is seriously injured, but his life is not in danger. Unfortunately, the alarm of some of the women overcame every other feeling, and they resolved upon the desperate risk of a leap. One of these unfortunate creatures, Hannah Amber, leaped from the top of the mill into Smith-street, and was taken up in a state of insensibility. She died soon afterwards, having broken her back. Margaret Scott was clinging to a rope from the roof of the building, by which an attempt was made to lower her, and unfortunately let go her hold after descending a few feet. She fell in Penn street, and was killed. Jane Stranding jumped from the fourth storey into some lime in the back yard, and but little hope is entertained of her recovery. A girl made the same desperate leap, and did not sustain much injury from it, except to her eyes, which are burnt by the lime. Of those who had to be carried to their houses with fractured limbs and other severe injuries, there is a long list—in fact, as has been remarked already, like a military dispatch.

The fire was got under with great exertion by ten o'clock, and was extinguished by about noon, but not till the whole of the main building except the engine-house had been destroyed, the greater part of the front wall falling into Smith-street. The entire loss sustained by Messrs. Kelsall and Co. is estimated at £2,000L, a considerable part of which is believed to be covered by insurance, and Mr. Stott has suffered to the extent of 1,000L, of which, unfortunately, no portion is insured.

An Irish boy is missing, and is supposed to have been buried in the ruins.

THE GALE.

As late as yesterday the gale continued at Shields. About tide time on Monday night several vessels ran for the harbour. They were met by the ice and "fresher," and five of them were ashore on the Herd Sand yesterday morning, making seventeen vessels that have got on to that dangerous sand since Sunday night. Several more vessels have foundered with all hands. "Bad as the disasters are at our harbour (says a Shields letter) in rough weather, the loss of life must have been fearful, but for the courage and hardy bravery of the South Shields pilots. The gale that has been raging since Tuesday night will be the most fearful we have had for many years. North and south of us we hear of nothing but wrecks. With the very imperfect information we are in possession of, not less than 100 sail of vessels, large and small, are supposed to be ashore on the coast between Lowestoft and Leith Roads, and there is every reason to fear that considerably more than that number of seamen have met a watery grave."

A letter from Edinburgh, dated Monday evening, says: There are at present several hundred vessels lying in Leith Roads for shelter from the gale, which has now continued nearly a week; and almost every hour is adding to the number. It is many years since such a fleet has been seen in the Firth of Forth. From all quarters, ships have been driven to seek shelter in the roadstead."

Postscript.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

On the 30th of December the French and English fleets received orders to enter the Black Sea, but had been detained, up to the 1st, by contrary wind and bad weather. The *Times* thinks that the Admirals will proceed to Sebastopol to inform the Russian officers that their vessels will not be allowed to put to sea. It is probable that Baltshik, north of Varna, is the first place at which the fleets will touch. On the arrival of the above orders, instructions were immediately sent to the Turkish commanders in Europe and Asia to carry on the war with all possible energy. The Turks will fall back on Trajan's wall, extending from Czernavoda to Kostendji should General Lüders force the passage of the Danube at Matshin. The wall is very strongly fortified.

The *Vienna Oest. Correspondenz* contains an article the sense of which is that Austria has no reason to interfere in the present conflict, as her relations with all the great Powers are undisturbed.

The following is the text of the Note officially presented to the Divan by the Ambassadors of the four European Powers on the 15th ult.:

The undersigned, —, in accord with the representatives of —, has the honour to make known to the Sublime Porte that their Governments, having still reason to believe that the Emperor of Russia does not regard the thread of the negotiations as broken by the declaration of war, and the facts which have been the consequence of it, and knowing, moreover, from the declarations of His Imperial Majesty, that he only desires to see secured a perfect equality of rights and immunities granted by the Sultan and his ancestors to the Christian communities, subjects of the Sublime Porte; and on its side the Sublime Porte replying to that declaration by the declaration that it regards it as being for its honour to continue to maintain the said rights and immunities, and that it is constantly disposed to put an end to the differences which have arisen between the two empires, the negotiations to be followed shall be based—1st, on the evacuation of the Principalities as promptly as possible; 2nd, on the renewal of the old treaties; 3rd, on the communication of the firmans relative to the spiritual advantages granted by the Sublime Porte to all its non-Muslim subjects—a communication which, when made to the Powers, shall be accompanied by suitable assurances given to each of them. The arrangement already made to complete the accord relative to the Holy Places and to the religious establishments at Jerusalem shall be definitively adopted. The Porte shall declare to the representatives of the four Powers that it is ready to name a Plenipotentiary, to establish armistices, and to negotiate on the bases above mentioned, with the concurrence of the Powers, and in a neutral city, which shall be suitable to them. The declarations made in the preamble of the 13th July, 1841, shall be solemnly confirmed by the same Powers in the interest of the independence and the integrity of the Ottoman empire and that of the European concert; and the Sublime Porte on its side shall declare, in the same interest, its firm resolution to more efficaciously develop its administrative system, and the internal ameliorations which may satisfy the wants and the just expectations of its subjects of all classes.

S. DE REDCLIFFE.
BARAGUAY D'HILLIERS.
L. DE WILDENBRUCK.
DE BRUCK.

Pera, Dec. 12, 1853.

The reply of the Porte was conceived nearly in the following terms: Turkey, moved by a regard for its allies, consents to treat for peace, but on condition that the independence of her sovereign rights and the integrity of her empire shall be guaranteed both for the present and the future.

The extent to which the Porte has adopted the bases of negotiation recommended by the Powers is not yet known. At the date of the last advice received by telegraph the note was still under discussion at the Porte, and the definitive answer of the Ottoman Government had not been rendered. The strongest possible objections continued to be made to the renewal of the treaties which have for years enabled Russia to keep Turkey in perpetual disquietude. The moment of final decision on this point would hardly pass over without a crisis at the Porte.

Tranquillity prevailed in Constantinople on the 25th ult. Popular excitement ceased altogether on the issue of an explanatory proclamation.

The corporation of sofas is numerically strong, amounting to nearly 40,000 in the capital alone, and with considerable ramifications throughout the empire.

Nothing has transpired to connect the mission of the Belgian Prince de Chimay to the French Court with the Eastern question, and it seems, from the Paris correspondence of the morning papers, that it has probably no higher object than the regulation of the commercial relations between Belgium and her Gallic neighbour.

News was received at Constantinople, on the 25th ult., of a fresh defeat of the Turkish forces, near Kars, but within the Russian frontier. The Turkish troops were represented to have numbered 25,000. They were attacked by a Russian force 18,000 strong. The right wing and centre of the Turkish army for a time defended themselves well; but the left wing was with difficulty restrained from surrendering without a blow; all the exertions, however, of the officers in command could not prevent them from disbanding. After the engagement the Russians scrupulously abstained from entering the Turkish territory, within which the whole of the Turkish army had taken refuge.

The positive announcement of the entry of the

allied fleets into the Black Sea, coupled with the firm language of the *Paris Moniteur*, seems to have produced a profound sensation in moneyed circles throughout Europe.

The screw steam frigate Agamemnon and the line-of-battle ships Queen and London have reached the anchorage of the English fleet at Beicoa.

A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign-office yesterday, and sat four hours. The Marquis of Lansdowne, as well as all the other Ministers, were present.

Mr. Roebuck, it is currently stated (says the *Daily News*), will, as soon as Parliament meets, call upon Ministers for a categorical explanation of the unpleasant rumours, so widely diffused and so generally credited, respecting the undue interference of the Prince Consort in the administrative government of this country.

A meeting on the Eastern question, described as "crowded and enthusiastic," was held, at Sheffield on Monday evening—the mayor (Mr. Hoole), in the chair, who stated that, although he had consented to preside, he did not concur in the object of the meeting. The first two resolutions were as follows:—

That the present war in the east is solely caused by the Russian invasion of the Danubian Principalities, and that the Turkish Government is quite justified in insisting upon their unconditional evacuation. (Cheers.)

That it is the duty of this country and France at once to summon Russia to re-cross the Frith unconditionally, and failing compliance to compel him to do so, if necessary, by force of arms.

The last of these was seconded by Mr. A. Booth, who explained that though a member of the Peace Society, he thought peace must be accompanied by freedom and liberty. He was an advocate of war to compel a nation to do that by force which she would not do by the influence of moral suasion. The third resolution was as follows:—

That if thus driven to resort to arms peace should not be made without the most complete and satisfactory adjustment of all disputes between Russia and Turkey.

Mr. I. Ironsides then moved an address to the Queen, embodying these resolutions, and also containing an allusion to "certain painful rumours calculated to create alarm and distrust among the British people." The Mayor would not allow the paragraph to be read, as he believed the rumours about Prince Albert to be totally unfounded. The paragraph was subsequently omitted, and the memorial adopted unanimously.

Last night's *Gazette* announces the appointment of Dr. Bowring, now Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, to be Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of British trade in China.

The Coroner's inquiry into the cause of the railway collision on the Eastern Counties Railway was resumed at Thetford yesterday, and adjourned to Thursday, in order that Mr. Latham, one of the sufferers, might be examined.

At the Epiphany Sessions for the North Riding of Yorkshire, held at Northallerton, last week, there were only fourteen prisoners for felony for trial, and ten for misdemeanours. It is upwards of thirty years since such an occurrence took place, of so few in number having to be tried at these sessions.

The Marylebone Free Library, at 27, Gloucester-place, New-road, was opened to the public on Monday. It contains about 5,000 volumes.

There have been food riots at Exeter as well as at Crediton, in consequence of the high price of bread. Yesterday, some baker's shops were attacked by a mob consisting chiefly of the wives of labourers out of employ. One shop was smashed. In one or two instances the bakers threw out their bread to the mob, who were thus appeased, and proceeded on to other shops. The military were called out and pursued the rioters to Alphington and Exminster, two villages in the neighbourhood. At the former place, they ransacked the bakers' shops, and carried off the bread and other articles. At Exminster, they attacked the premises of Mr. Trond, a wealthy farmer, took away a variety of articles, and helped themselves to a quantity of cider. Twenty-five young men and boys were apprehended, and are now in custody. The city is at present quiet, and the soldiers have returned to the barracks.

The Registrar-General reports that 1,444 deaths were registered in London in the first week of the year. Of these, 656 were deaths of children under 15 years of age; 431 were of persons between 15 and 60 years; and 353 occurred to men and women in advanced life, who had completed sixty years and upwards. The present return shows an excess of 56 above the corrected average. The mean temperature of last week was 30.2. It fell as low in the first week of 1849, and the deaths were then 1,131. It fell to 29.4 in the week ending 2nd Jan., 1847, when the mortality was as high as that of last week. There died last week 352 persons from diseases of the organs of respiration, while the calculated number is 279. Twelve died of laryngitis and laryngismus stridulus, 189 of bronchitis, 104 of pneumonia, 36 of asthma; 86 children died of whooping-cough. There were only two deaths from cholera.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, Jan. 11.

With a further improvement in prices of grain in all our provincial and country markets, every article here is held at over Monday's rates.

	ARRIVALS THIS WEEK:—			FOREIGN.
	ENGLISH.	IRISH.		
Wheat	Qrs. 710	—	Qrs. 12410	
Barley	380	—	2800	
Oats	—	1850	660	
Flour	420	—	—	sacks 26990 bbls.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Noncon."—We greatly regret that in our hurry at Christmas we forgot to acknowledge his letter. We do so now with much gratitude.

"A. Walker, Jun."—There are many Anti-State-Church tracts published at 41, Ludgate-hill, by the Religious Liberation Society.

"* We were in error in stating in our last Number that the abridgment of the Census Report was proposed by Mr. Mann. We believe that gentleman has no connexion with it, but as it is issued under the sanction of the Registrar-General, we have no doubt it will be trustworthy. We may also mention, that in our last week's Supplement Mr. Mann is, by a curious typographical error, made to sympathise with the persecution of Galileo, saying that religion controls "science" instead of "conscience."

A Stamped Edition of our last week's Supplement, containing an Abridgment of the Official Report and Tables on "Religious Worship," to go free by post, will be forwarded by the Publisher on the receipt of Six Postage Stamps.

We beg to announce that it is our intention, during the present year, to give, once in about every Six Weeks, a LITERARY SUPPLEMENT of Eight Pages, containing Reviews of the most Valuable Publications of the day.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 11, 1854.

SUMMARY.

FOR a few more days Western Europe must remain in a state of anxious suspense, awaiting the final decision of the Emperor of Russia upon the last proposition of the Four Powers, accepted by the Sultan, at the risk of a serious insurrection in his capital. Probably by the 15th instant the telegraph will have informed us of the result. That it will be favourable to the maintenance of peace few are sanguine enough to believe. Already the preliminaries of war have commenced. Every post from St. Petersburg tells of preparations for a gigantic and protracted struggle, and of the enthusiasm and extravagant expectations of the Russian people. If we are to believe report, the sinews of war have, for a time, been liberally supplied by the clergy and other voluntary contributors. That there is small chance of the acceptance of any pacific arrangement is manifest from the peremptory refusal of Russia to accede to the request of Austria for a joint European Protectorate of the Greek Christians of Turkey, as well as from the statement now authoritatively made in the State paper of the French Government noticed elsewhere, which distinctly declares that the Sinope slaughter was a violation of good faith. "The Cabinet of St. Petersburg had intimated that it should abstain from taking the offensive anywhere in the contest so unhappily begun in Turkey." In fact, about the very time when orders were given for this disastrous expedition, the other Powers of Europe were led to believe by Russia that their good offices would not be employed in vain.

In France and England the measures taken by the respective Governments indicates the imminence of war. 8,000 more seamen and marines, in addition to the 5,000 extra raised last year, are to be immediately added to our navy, if they can be got. The *Times* exults in our efficient screw fleet, consisting of eleven steam line-of-battle ships, soon to be increased to twenty, five guardships with auxiliary steam power, and seven frigates fitted with screw propellers. But where are the 573 ships of war enumerated in the Navy List, and what has been done with the six millions annual expenditure for our navy, that we should be now falling back upon a new fleet and increased expenditure? France is preparing to send a large military force to Turkey, and from the character of Louis Napoleon there can be no question that, when once the die is cast, it will be his desire and policy to prosecute the war with the utmost energy.

Respecting the attitude of the other Powers of Europe, we have less precise information. It is nevertheless, certain that the Scandinavian Powers will maintain a rigid neutrality and have

refused the Russian demand to exclude the fleets of the Western Powers from the Baltic. Prussia also leans to the side of England, though her counsels are still vacillating. Austria is struggling with hopeless insolvency, and a monetary crisis, the forerunner of a graver catastrophe, is now upon her, in the midst of which she, in vain, stretches out her hands for the assistance of European capitalists. Her condition is illustrated by the fact that her Government have just refused to receive, except at fifteen per cent. discount, the paper of their own national bank, which all other persons in the country are compelled to take at par. The doom of the Hapsburg dynasty would seem to be hastening to its fulfilment. It is not surprising that in their extremity the Austrian Government have sent a special envoy to St. Petersburg to implore the Czar to make some concessions which will avert war, nor does the report seem unlikely that the Emperor of the French has peremptorily demanded of that Power a statement of its intentions in that event. It is, at least, curious that the effusions of the Vienna press should be reproduced in the official French organ.

As the period for the assembling of Parliament approaches, rumours of Ministerial and party action of course grow in number and distinctness. The very natural suspicion that the price of Palmerston's return to the Cabinet is the Reform Bill, is met by an assurance that Lord John Russell adheres to his resolution. The reorganization of Derby-Disraelites on a foreign-policy basis, is announced by a provincial paper, with numerical precision, on "the best authority." The Liberal-opposition journals proclaim Mr. Roebuck's intention to demand explanations of Ministerial relations to the Court, as well as to the East. On all sides it seems understood that ministers will have to meet a House severely patriotic, but not factiously suspicious.

The Revenue Returns for the year ending January the 5th, show a very considerable increase—on the year—in the produce of the Customs, Excise, Stamps, Property-tax, and Crown Lands. The surplus is more than absorbed by the payment of dissentient fund-holders—the payment of 6,048,758*l.* leaving a deficiency of 1,187,641*l.* By this means, however, an immediate saving of about 200,000*l.* a year is effected; the branches of revenue from which the surplus is drawn, are such as expand largely under the breath of general prosperity; and in another year, the produce of the Successions-duty and extended Income-tax will make a high figure. The last quarter's account is less satisfactory. It gives evidence, in the fact of a decrease of ordinary revenue to the amount of nearly 300,000*l.*, of other causes of decline besides fiscal reductions. The high price of provisions has had its natural effect upon consumption; and under that condition the reproductive power of revenue is indefinitely impaired.

Even with wheat at 80*s.* to 88*s.* the quarter, the tidings of bread-riots strike us with grave surprise. We thought such *emeutes* had ceased for ever in England. That Exeter and its neighbourhood was the scene, and a mob rather of the vagabond than the suffering the agent, may diminish but does not altogether dissipate concern. The poor of an agricultural district are notoriously more ready than those of other parts for the rude expedient of an attack upon the bakers, when hunger is felt, or can be with advantage simulated. Something more than an introduction of dragoons is advised by the event,—an anxious inquiry into the real condition of the neighbourhood, and liberal measure of relief.

In every town and village, compassionate investigation and bestowal must be much needed. The metropolitan police-magistrates, we observe, have a serious addition to their duties in the distribution of money placed at their disposal, and still are unable to satisfy their own trustworthy sense of what is needed.

Again the Registrar-General reports an excess of deaths—though much decreased from the previous week—over the estimated rate; and again our weekly obituary contains names of note. The nearly simultaneous deaths of Lord Plunket and Marshal Beresford, suggest a comparative review of their respec-

tive lives and the parallel history of their common country. The quiet exit of Francis Place from among us is, in keeping with the unobtrusive activity of his highly useful career. The Rev. Dr. Collyer, of Peckham, has departed close in the wake of that other renowned Congregational preacher, whose death we last week noted, and whom he seems to have much resembled.

Snow-storm and wind-storm,—frost, fire, and flood,—suspended communication, railway accidents, great fires at several points, disasters on the coast,—society all frozen out for a week, and now the Medway's banks overflowed by the liberated and swollen waters, will be scarcely *news* to any of our readers, so universally have they been experienced. We have fully reported and discoursed of them elsewhere, and they may here serve as a natural peroration to a Winter's Tale.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

SECRET VOTING.

WHATEVER may be the liberality of the New Reform Bill in regard to the re-distribution of Parliamentary seats and the extension of the franchise—on which, however, we honestly confess, we should be sorry to pledge our reputation—there is one thing, the adoption of which we are sure the public need not anticipate,—namely, such a machinery of voting as will effectually protect the elector. It is true, that one or two members of the Cabinet have declared themselves favourable to the Ballot. It is also true, that the revelations of last session brought out by the Election Committees, impressed upon most minds the importance, if we are to retain representative Government at all, of grappling vigorously with the prevailing evils of intimidation and bribery. It is further true that it is not to the practical inefficiency, nor to the un-English character, of the secret vote, that our club politicians can be supposed to feel an insuperable objection—for they continue to resort to the ballot in many of their social combinations. But any one who has watched the tone of public men during the last ten years, and especially of such as aspire to the reputation of statesmanship, must be convinced that nothing short of an irresistible necessity will ever force upon the acceptance of the ruling class, an expedient which will render their tenure of political power as uncertain as are the inmost thoughts of the constituent body.

And yet, perhaps, an elective machinery so constructed as to shield the voter from illicit external influences, is more urgently called for by the bad habits of electors, than almost any other change that can be mentioned. It has been customary, indeed, to talk of electoral corruption, as if it were mainly the vice of the poor. We have, for many years past, looked at the subject in another light—and since we are now upon the topic, we trust our readers will allow us to quote from our own pages a passage pertinent to our present purpose, and written some time during A.D. 1841.

"Political corruptibility is not an accident of station. To seek immediate and personal advantage in preference to a remote and uncertain public good, is a disposition not confined to the poor—it belongs to *man*. When the interest of an individual's family for the year next succeeding an election is suspended upon the mode in which he shall give his vote—when honesty in recording his political sentiments exposes him to a prospect of immediate, and, it may be, ruinous loss—when social considerations all point in one direction, and public principle sternly points in the opposite one; we say—not that political virtue cannot be found, we know better—but that to base legislation upon the expectation that it will be general, is not only unstatesmanlike, but a gross absurdity. We must deal with man as we find him. If all men were under the influence of religion, Government would be a sinecure. But they are not. The great majority of men in the middle and aristocratic classes, as well as amongst the poor, look to themselves, and choose an immediate good in preference to a remote one. We cannot secure a virtuous constituency—some other way to get rid of bribery and intimidation must be found; for so long as men are open to strong temptation, so

long is it reasonable to expect them to fall before it. We have always, in this matter, gone to work unphilosophically. To a position beset on every hand with peril, we have attempted to bring a constituency capable of maintaining it, notwithstanding; instead of looking about for a position in which extraordinary virtue shall not be required. And we have invariably secured the same result—the speedy deterioration of the constituency we have created. We have practically forgotten that man is man, whether adorned with titles, or renting a ten pound house, or getting his daily bread by manual labour. We seek an independent and virtuous body of electors—we cannot get one—we have not got one—we never had one. Bribery and intimidation! They are ubiquitous—they assail all classes—they are practised by all parties—they assume every possible variety of shape—they adapt themselves to every rank and condition of life—in one instance ‘gross, open, palpable;’ in another, subtle as a summer’s breeze—here doing their baneful work by gorging men’s sensual appetites; there, by tickling their vanity—oozing out, in some places, through a sly insinuation; in others, lurking in an aristocratic smile—now glancing from a banker’s eye, frowning from the brow of a landlord, or twanged by the tongue of a master manufacturer—then riding into a man’s heart upon a present of game, or an invitation to dine at the great house, or an inquiry after the welfare and business capabilities of an elder son in search of a situation. To look for purity of election under the present system is sheer nonsense—it is to expect that man will cease to be man.”

Now, if the above be a correct representation—and it is amply confirmed, we think, by general experience—then any Reform Bill which fails to recognise the fact, and to provide against it, must be pronounced radically defective. So long as a seat in Parliament is an object of ambition to the powerful and the wealthy, and so long as politics continue to excite the passions, men will not be wanting who will resort to bribery and intimidation—and so long as the present and the tangible exercises a more active influence than the future and the indefinite, there will always be numbers whose political virtue will succumb in the hour of trial. Seduction will still infest our towns—intimidation will rule our counties. The only feasible remedy, besides enlarging our constituencies, is to render the operation of both evils uncertain for the purpose of him who employs them. If this can be accomplished by any other mode than by secret voting, we shall be glad to adopt the one in preference to the other. As yet, we have heard of none. And hence, we earnestly demand the ballot.

The Ballot, we say—not necessarily in any particular mechanical form in which it has become familiar to the public—but in such form as will make it imperative upon every voter, to perform the act of giving his vote in entire secrecy. Whether this be done by a Balloting Urn at the Poll-booth, or by signing and inclosing in an envelope a voting paper at home, or by some special postal arrangement for the day, we care not, so long as there is reasonable security against fraud on the one hand, and espionage on the other. What we desiderate is that every elector shall be able to make his public act represent his private judgment, unswayed by corruption, and unbiassed by coercion.

That there are objections to secret voting, especially with a limited constituency, we frankly admit. But surely, nothing can be worse, nothing more dangerous to constitutional government, than the present system. The nation may seem to tolerate the nuisance, in prosperous times, such as we have recently had. But of this we may be sure, that no institution is safe which is not rooted in public respect. If war should supervene—if calamities should follow hard upon it—if distress and misery should once more get the upper hand of us, and produce general discontent—we may be certain that the strain will be immediately felt in the weakest part of our representative arrangements. While the people believe in the integrity of their own House, England will be secure against violent revolution; but let their confidence in that be undermined—let it

once be suspected that government by representation is a sham—and the first storm which arises to test the stability of our institutions will show the mischief which is done by allowing dry rot at their core. We can hardly fall but by our own folly, and nothing can be more infatuated than to resist any feasible proposition for purifying and protecting the vitality of our electoral system.

THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

ONCE more, in the life-time of some of us—for the first time, in the experience of the great majority,—Winter has shown us what he can be and do in these latitudes, mis-called temperate. Scarcely the briefest history of England, brought down to the close of the long war, omits from among such great events as the treaty of Tilsit, the battle of Jena, and the retreat from Moscow, the memorable incident that the Thames was frozen over, and a fair held on its shining surface, in 1809. The recording Muse may decline to recognise any state of snow and ice short of the solidarity of London and Southwark, as worthy of commemoration. But we writers of contemporary history have a strong belief, that although the phenomena of last week may not be expressible so epigrammatically as those of 1809, they are no less worthy of abiding record—at least equally entitled with the cab-strike, to such immortality as print and tradition can confer.

Certainly, none who experienced will ever forget, or soon cease to talk of, the “three glorious days” of January—Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday last. They are reflected from we know not how many of the multitudinous little mirrors that make up memory. The merchant and the merchant’s clerk will remember, long as the daily delivery finds him at his post, that Tuesday’s letters were not “in” till Wednesday night, and Wednesday’s till Friday, when everybody took to the telegraph. People who had the ill-luck to be locked into a railway train, will be reminded by the slightest fluttering of winter fleece in the air, how they were snowed-up till eleven trains were due on one line, even fire-steeds harnessed eight deep, failing to break the barrier on which the very sparrows left their footprints; how a Midland party were left in a Swiss valley; and how an army of excursionists bivouacked in a town-hall. Country people, to whom impassable roads and frozen ponds are no more novelties than the flower-besprent meadow or the ripened corn, got an accession of topics for their sluggish talk in the news of London fast as their own turnips. And Londoners, with whom the Crystal Palace was but a nine days’ wonder—to whose habits an influx of some six million visitors in as many months made no interruption—will tell to yet unborn denizens of Cockaigne, how the house-tops of two millions and a quarter people were thatched in one night six inches thick with snow; their doors blocked up to the knocker; their pavements so deeply overlaid, that to clear them was to line the kerb with mimic Alps; while the roadway was covered nearly to the horses’ knees with a substance which passed in a few hours from the likeness of Siberian to that of Sahara soil. But unless there be a descendant of Taylor the Water-poet, or of the Jolly Young Waterman of musical celebrity, the perils and humours of Thames navigation amidst ice-packs, will never be adequately pictured—the penny-a-liner failing in justice to the emergency, even with the latest dispatches from the Arctic seas at their elbow.

We do not take it unkindly of Winter that he has come amongst us once again in this ancient garb. Quite otherwise. We have had serious thoughts these many years past of making half-yearly migrations in search of our missing seasons. Neither summer suns nor winter frosts have been nearly seasonable enough for our liking since the days when we snow-balled our schoolfellows, and adhered to a newly-pitched fence against which we had taken a grassy couch. We can have no patience with the talk of “the severe inclemency of the last few days,” the “hardships of nature,” the “miseries inflicted by the season”—sentences to be found in a single article of one of our daily contemporaries—but on the supposition that the writer is an invalid or that his whining is vicarious. To a man with an asthma, a half-filled stomach, a napless coat,

or a crippled limb, snow-storms and hard frosts are very proper subjects of aversion; though they can scarcely be more objectionable than a humid atmosphere or an east wind. To all besides—the vast majority of our fellow-creatures, we would hope—the sharpest weather must bring enjoyment greatly preponderating over the inconveniences entailed. Even on the night of yesterday week—when the thermometer was lower than at any hour these forty years past—what a tingling cheek, what an exhilarating gallop of the blood, what a glorious sense of contest with nature, was there not in the sharp, pelting, drifting snow! Who that has not lost the rudimental elements of man in the acquired tastes of the citizen, would prefer onesided baking at the fireside by candlelight, to the warmth of struggle with the wind over a soil here clean as if swept with a besom, there a yard deep in snow, and the stars shining with rejoicing brightness over city and country, houses and hills, that for once looked beautiful as well as grand?

Yet are we not insensible to the grave practical inconveniences by which nature levies on us payment for these hyperborean pleasures. We have a keen appreciation of such disadvantages as suspended communication by land and water, rail and road, between a city and its suburbs, not to speak of city and country—of cabs at five shillings a mile, and omnibuses at treble fares—above all, coals at five shillings a sack, and the threat of extinguished lamps and ruptured water-pipes;—a catalogue of troubles climaxed by the very method of their dissipation—that most miserable of London miseries, a thaw. But we take it as among “the compliments of the season,” that we are thus warned in how many of our ordinary doings we are dependent on conventional arrangements, and by how much natural difficulties are aggravated by social malformation. The *Times* points out—as the lesson of the crisis—the imperfect construction and warming of our houses a defect which every season illustrates in its turn, and the simple expedient of building with hollow bricks would go far to remedy. The exorbitant price of fuel when fuel is most needed, is a hint to political economists that only the egotistic optimism of its professors can prevent their taking. Another hint is given at once to economists and philanthropists by the very remarkable supply of seasonable labour which a snow-fall produces. Boys, well armed with brooms and shovels, are knocking at your doors before you know that a single flake has fallen, with the offer to clear your threshold; and when that is done, a second detachment volunteers service on the house-top. We even observed, that the helping of the timid and infirm along the pavements was one of the sources of trade of London every day last week. These camp followers of Winter cannot all be his victims—labourers driven by him from their ordinary fields. It must be only another revelation of that precarious class whose extent we can never accurately measure, but have fresh reason to apprehend, whenever we require a link-boy or an extra scavenger, is too large for its own comfort or the safety of society; ever willing to serve, but often of necessity tempted to steal. Looked at thus, the sharpest inconveniences yet inflicted by this sharp winter are a bunch of snowdrops—the promise of spring flowers and summer fruits, bound up with the mistletoe and holly—signs of healthy life and pleasure—all presented together as “the compliments of the season.”

HEROISM IN COMMON PERILS.

THERE has been a good deal said of late—though by no means enough—of the knowledge of common things. Lord Ashburton’s address to the Winchester schoolmasters, on the importance of this neglected branch of teaching, has brought out the confession, that even in the most practical nation of Europe, among both rich and poor, there is a woeful ignorance on subjects the most open to observation and the most urgent in their claims.

In this discussion, the still more grievous incapacity for action, prompt, energetic, and well-directed, when such action is most peremptorily demanded, should not be overlooked. We have a striking illustration of this, by an example of its opposite, in the disastrous fire at the Messrs. Kellsall’s woollen mills, Rochdale.

It is seen, now that death and suffering have been incurred by the oversight, in this as in nearly every similar case, that some obvious precautions against the terrible results of fire, were omitted in the construction of the building. But it is shown also most remarkably, that much may be done by coolness, and the courage which coolness imparts, to mitigate the worst calamities. To the self-possession and self-exposure of three men,—Radcliffe, Duckworth, and Taylor,—it seems owing that thirty or forty women and children did not perish miserably on, or by falling from, the fifth story of the burning pile. The plan of action separately adopted by each, without the loss of a moment in hesitation or fright, was as similar to that of the others' as were the circumstances by which they were suddenly surrounded. The communication with the single staircase being cut off by the flames, the men collected around them their feeble and panic-stricken fellow-operatives, seized a rope, or put together its substitute with pieces of flannel, and so lowered their charges down the perilous descent,—themselves bravely waiting for the turn of the bravest. True captains of industry are these, though they command only little detachments of factory hands, and themselves fling the shuttle or watch the spindle. They knew what to do in the worst emergency, and did it with unshrinking courage—than which no better can be said of the wisest or bravest.

THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE SEAT OF WAR.

We drew some two months' since upon the pages of the *British Quarterly Review* for the materials of a leading-article paragraph on the war in the Caucasus. We may be helped, in writing on some future occasion—too much to be apprehended!—on the Danubian Provinces, by a paper in the present number, from which we take, for the present aid of our readers' imagination, the following zoological description of a geographical surface:—

Turkey, viewed in its whole extent, that is, with the inclusion of its Asiatic as well as its European dominions, is in shape not unlike a huge stag, of which one hind foot is on the Persian Gulf, and another on the confines of the Nile, while its body is formed by the space intervening between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean, and its head consists of its chief European provinces, with one branch of its antlers extending to Moldavia, and the opposite one reaching as far as Bosnia and Croatia. The comparison is the less objectionable because the Caucasian Alps and the Armenian Mountains form the hips of the stag, the Balkan its horns, while in the nape of its neck is Constantinople, the capital of the empire. The image implies that the members of this body politic are remote one from another. Such a separation would commonly be detrimental. In the case before us it has advantages. If the reader will turn to the map he will see that, to keep up our figure, Turkey can resist her assailant at once by her hoofs and by her horns, kicking him back at the Caucasus, and pushing him back at the Balkan.

We have just received, with an excuse for tardy delivery, the two maps published by Mr. Wyld, of Charing-cross, with creditable promptitude, of the countries to which warlike operations are at present confined. One of these maps gives a very minute representation of the country on the west side of the Black Sea, from Odessa to Constantinople; the natural and artificial features of the varied territory, all marked plainly by various devices. The other is a map of the whole Turkish empire, and as much of the Russian as comes below the 50th degree of north latitude. Only use, of course, can fully test the completeness and accuracy of any publication of this kind; but these may be confidently pronounced to be the most likely to stand that test.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS AND THE CULTIVATION OF FLAX.

(From a Correspondent.)

There is no good reason why an industrial school, to be made self-supporting after the first year, may not be originated in every parish in England and Ireland—a model or normal school, to train teachers being, in the first instance, and without wasting another year, formed in every county. Many experiments (and one especially carried out many years ago in the county of Dorset), have proved that this may be done not only with effect, but, also, with profit, if the benevolent and influential will only unite and act with zeal and perseverance. This kind of education, it is every one's interest to promote, and there need not be a jarring word about it amongst persons of different denominations. Let it be the main object to promote industry, and the Christianity taught by Christ himself in the Sermon on the Mount.

In the Dorsetshire school, to which reference has been made, thirty acres of land were sown in March with flax-seed. The weeding, pulling, stamping out, and fitting for Yeovil market, were all accomplished by one skilful labourer, and fourteen boys, who, by their own temperate and well-directed labours, earned

their own living. At the end of the year, they found good places, most of them as agricultural labourers; but if the school had been kept on until the lads had been thoroughly educated and skilled, they would, no doubt, have been very profitably and most usefully employed as managers of other schools. Should we go to war with Russia, hemp and flax will be in yet greater demand, and yield very high prices. If in every parish, therefore, fifty acres of land were sown with flax and hemp in March next, and a small school of this description set on foot, to fit it for a market, it would give profitable employment in the winter season to at least twenty-five boys or girls in every such parish. Reckoning that there may be 15,000 parishes in England and Ireland, no less than 375,000 youths might thus be industriously trained and taught the Christian religion, at the expense chiefly of so much of their own labour as would do them good, and not injury. The cost of establishing such a school need not exceed 200l. for rent, seed, machinery, books, and instruction, and it might all be repaid in the first two years. Why should not at least one such school be immediately set on foot in every county? Surely, if it be good to establish reformatory schools, it must be still better to prevent crime, by rightly educating and industriously training the young. It is because they have been neglected at their own homes, that so many thousands of them crowd to our large cities and manufacturing towns, where they soon fall into bad company and become thieves and criminals, for want, very frequently, of suitable, regular, and profitable employment. There can be no better occupation for hundreds of thousands of youths than would be found in such industrial schools as are now proposed. There is a never-failing demand for flax and hemp, and one of the most effectual means of convincing the Russian landowners of the impolicy of the course of their Emperor in going to war, would be to show them that one of the effects of it has been a supply of the demand of our manufacturers for their staples, by our raising a sufficient quantity for ourselves. With abundant supplies of cotton from the East and West Indies, of wool from Australia, and of hemp and flax from our own agricultural parishes, we should no longer be dependant on the slave-owners of America, the wool-growers of Spain, or the haughty despot of Russia, for a supply for our manufacturers, and might easily afford a right education to the youths of every parish in our own country, thus qualifying them when the necessity shall arise, to become prosperous emigrants to our own colonies in which they do not require ill-trained and idle persons, but skilful, industrious, and virtuous labourers.

The writer of this paper will be happy to correspond or co-operate with any persons who may take an interest in this subject, if they will address X. Y. Z., Elmsley's Post-office, North Brixton.

Court and Personal News.

The routine engagements of the Court have been varied by drives in a sledge. Prince Albert drove out the Queen on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and the Royal children followed in a second sledge. Amongst the visitors have been the Duchess of Kent, the Earl of Shelburne, the Earl of Hardwicke, Sir Chas. Eastlake, and Mr. Gladstone. The Marquis of Lansdowne was invited for Thursday, but was too unwell to obey Her Majesty's commands. On Saturday, however, he was able to go, but returned to Bowood-park in the evening.

The *Morning Advertiser* calls attention to the fact that the Duke George of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz, first cousin to Prince Albert, brother of the reigning Duke, and brother-in-law of the Duke of Cambridge, is married to the Grand Duchess Catherine of Russia.

The Emperor of the French has sent 40l. in aid of the funds of the Société Française de Bienfaisance, founded in 1842 for the relief of the French poor in this country.

The Duke of Richmond has sold his stud and retired from the turf.

The mother of Mr. Thomas Carlyle died on Christmas-day, at Scotsbrig, near Ecclefechan. Both her sons, Dr. John Carlyle and Thomas Carlyle, were present at her deathbed.

Mr. Headlam, M.P., it will gratify his friends to know, says the *Gateshead Observer*, is in a fair way of recovery from his late painful accident, and with a prospect of suffering no permanent inconvenience from the fractures.

Miscellaneous News.

The shareholders of the Gravesend Diamond Steam-packet Company having determined upon winding-up their affairs, in consequence of the losses which they have sustained, the property of the company has been converted into money; and the net assets, producing 3s. 1d. in the pound on the paid-up capital, is now being divided among the shareholders.

A civil engineer has just succeeded in recovering the sum of 6l. from the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton company, one of whose trains, in consequence of its late arrival at Stourbridge, and stopping to take in a gang of railway workmen, failed to catch the London express at Dudley, and so prevented the plaintiff from attending in his professional capacity a meeting in London.

The council of the Photographic Society opened, on Tuesday night, by *soirée*, at the rooms of the Society of British Artists in Suffolk-street, an exhibition,

open to exhibitors from all parts of the world, for the purpose of bringing together photographs on paper and glass, both relative and positive; daguerreotypes, plain and coloured, and stereoscopic pictures, for the inspection of amateurs and the public. The attendance of a large number of the members and their friends showed the interest which is taken in this rapidly-advancing art. A very large and interesting collection of photographic objects was collected.

On Monday and Tuesday evening, in last week, Mr. Vincent addressed two very large meetings at Stockport,—the first presided over by Mr. Kershaw, M.P. for the borough; the second, by Henry Coppock, Esq. The cold snowy weather did not in the least daunt the people, and a large body of ladies gallantly braved it. On Wednesday morning, Mr. Vincent left Stockport for London, having to lecture at High Wycombe on Thursday and Friday nights; but he was blocked up by the snow storm near Crewe, from nine o'clock on Wednesday morning, until four o'clock on Thursday afternoon. The scene on the line was very exciting. The North Western Company did all in their power to alleviate the misfortunes of the passengers, and no serious accident occurred. Mr. Vincent could not reach High Wycombe in time for his second meeting: so both lectures are postponed until further notice.

There is now on view at Exeter Hall a picture of "Cromwell dictating his letter to the Duke of Savoy," by Mr. Newenham. Having been unable to inspect it, we copy the criticism of the *Daily News*: "As this picture has already been before the public of the metropolis, it is only necessary to say that the engraving of it, by Mr. W. H. Simmons, of which the present exhibition, we imagine, is intended chiefly as an advertisement, is a fair reproduction of a tolerably good picture, at a very cheap rate. No doubt it will be popular with the *habitués* of Exeter Hall. Cromwell is not at all melo-dramatic or 'stern'; nor is Milton's face at all overdone in expression. The heads are both, in fact, executed with the right feeling, and the traditional likenesses are very well preserved. Of course the action, if action it can be called, gives no great scope for the display of feeling. The whole interest of the picture is centred in the expression of the faces."

On Wednesday evening, January 4, the members and friends of the Education Institution, 58, Aldersgate-street, held their annual *soirée*; Joseph Payne, Esq., in the chair. Suitable addresses were delivered by Messrs. H. Althairs, jun., Thomas Gilks, and F. A. New; between which Messrs. J. Smee, W. T. Matson, Bowden, and Easton, amused and enlivened the audience with several recitations. The musical arrangements, which were conducted by Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Cooper, were most successful, the audience testifying their approval of the melodies by frequent applause. During the ensuing half year there will be twenty-four lectures delivered on Wednesday evenings. We hope that this institution, which is supplying a want so deeply felt since the demise of the Literary Institution, and that too at a rate which will enable the intelligent working man to partake of its benefits, will meet with a large amount of support from all classes of the community.

Some time ago, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of London, forwarded through the British Ambassador at Paris an address to the Municipality of that City, thanking the latter for the courteous reception of the City authorities in the year 1851. This address was recently acknowledged by the authorities of Paris. The reply, tastefully and splendidly emblazoned, expresses, on the part of the Municipal authorities and the Prefect of the Seine, the satisfaction felt at this new proof of the close union which exists between England and France, and conveys the assurance that the Municipality of Paris, like that of London, appreciates the benefits of the happy brotherhood which peaceful competitions tend to establish between civilised nations. This document is dated "August 13, 1852," and is accompanied by a note, dated the "17th December 1853," from the present Prefect of the Seine. The receipt of the note was acknowledged on the 22nd of December last by the Lord Mayor; who expresses an earnest hope "that the reciprocation of kindly feelings, which were cemented by the Great Exhibition of 1851, may long be cherished by two such powerful and distinguished communities as the cities of Paris and London."

The fourth annual report of the National Freehold Land Society has just been issued. It appears from this statement that the receipts of the last year were fifty per cent. more than those of the former one, and nearly equal to the total receipts of the previous three years. The land sold to the members during the same period was 150 per cent. more than in the year preceding, and exceeded by 9,000l. the amount of all the land that had been previously sold from the formation of the society. The new shares issued in the seventeen months ending October 31, 1850, were 5,019; in the year ending October 31, 1851, 9,831; in the year ending October 31, 1852, 22,251; and in the year ending October 31, 1853, they were 29,742. The sum received in the same four periods of time ascend in the following consecutive and progressive order: 21,257, 96,137l., 192,071l., and 295,154l. The society has issued in all 66,843 shares, and received 604,620l. Its lots sold amount in fine to 229,672l. The balance available for the purpose of dividend, is ascertained to be more than sufficient to pay the usual rate of profit; and, consequently, for the past year, a dividend of 5l. 8s. 4d. per cent. per annum has been carried to the account of all uncompleted shares not advanced. It is estimated that the balance of profit realised from estates, and which forms the guarantee fund, now amounts to 12,448l.; and, although the accounts of many of the estates are not closed, yet the directors, fortified by experience derived from similar calculations in former years, have little doubt that that estimate is substantially correct.

THE WEATHER—SNOW-STORM AND WRECKS.

The weather, in its immediate and contingent results, has unquestionably been the leading topic of domestic interest during the week. Tuesday, the 3rd inst., will be remarkable as the day on which occurred a snow-storm scarcely equalled during the present century. The fall commenced in the evening. When day broke on Wednesday, the parks, the footways, the roads, were covered with a thick mantle of snow. As a strong easterly wind blew nearly all night, many persons found their doorways blocked up; and here and there drifts many feet deep were piled up in the streets and roads, leaving bare patches of ground. Armies of men and boys with brooms and shovels went round the town, and, for a consideration, swept and shovelled a passage through the snow; which, piled up in the roadway, formed an additional obstruction to traffic. Few omnibuses ran, owners being unwilling to peril their cattle, and drivers unwilling to take the responsibility. Those which ventured forth were drawn some by four, others by three, horses; and fares rose from sixpence to a shilling, and in some cases to eighteenpence. Cabs were equally scarce, and mostly drawn by two horses, either abreast or tandem fashion. Fares rose enormously—five shillings for a mile; and Mr. Fitzroy was defied. Towards night the streets were silent. Few heavy goods-waggons were seen, and those few were drawn by six and eight instead of four horses.

As the snow-storm extended over the whole country, the railway traffic was nearly stopped. The North-Western line was blocked up at the Tring cutting. The mail-train was embedded there five hours, and arrived at Euston-square eight hours behind time. The down trains "started" at their fixed times. On the Great Western, the Plymouth mail, due at four A.M., did not arrive till seven A.M. The down trains started at their time, but there was "hardly anybody to convey." The Great Northern was blocked on both rails at Grantham, and traffic between Peterborough and Newark was impossible. Late at night no trains had arrived, or were likely to arrive, from beyond Peterborough. The snow in the cuttings lay six feet deep. The Eastern Counties line was obstructed; and labourers were sent down, by special engine, to clear the rails. "In the Chesterford cutting, at nine o'clock, eight trains were embedded in the snow." An attempt was made to force a train through the snow by eight engines; but after proceeding half a mile, it came to a dead stand. The Norwich mail arrived at Shore-ditch at nine o'clock P.M., fourteen hours behind time.

The South-Eastern was blocked up early on Tuesday night; but some trains managed to get up. On the London and Brighton line, a path had to be dug through the snow from London to New Cross. All trains were behind time. The South-Western was blocked for some time at Farnborough, and the Southampton mail was four hours behind.

Late in the night, the report at the General Post-office was, that the Irish, Scotch, Yarmouth, Norwich, Ipswich, Cambridge, Peterborough, Dover, Deal, Margate, and Ramsgate mails, had not arrived.

The lines in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, were snowed up. On Wednesday, at seven P.M., the London mail was at Stafford. The drifts were very deep—one sixteen feet. At Birmingham, the snow fell heavily; and in Gloucestershire and Worcestershire. Severe storms at Shields and Tynemouth. Several vessels have gone ashore round the coast.

There was a second fall of snow on Wednesday night, reaching to the depth of three inches. It fell without wind, and so softly that even the small points of the iron railings were tipped with snow-caps. Throughout Thursday the supply of cabs was little better than on the preceding day, but omnibuses were more plentiful. Generally speaking, the footways were sloppy and slippery. There seemed to be a thaw in the streets, but where there was little traffic the thaw was not apparent. On Friday morning, the slushy paths of the over-night were frozen over in some places.

The report of railway operations on Thursday showed some signs of improvement. The Great Western was open, in spite of the snow of the preceding night. The Eastern Counties line was opened in the afternoon, at Chesterford, by the hard and continued exertions of workmen. The Norwich mail came in thirteen hours behind time. The South-Eastern, the South-Western, and the London, Brighton, and South Coast lines, were opened in the course of the day; but the great North lines were nearly closed. The passage from London to Liverpool was completely barred at Stafford and Crewe, and numerous trains were waiting there. The Midland, greatly obstructed, was, however, forced by the North British mail-train, which reached Euston-square thirty-six hours behind time. North of Stafford, the Normanton cutting was snowed up. Five engines were sent to force the pass, but they failed. The barristers on the sessions circuit could not get on from Derby to Nottingham. In Derby itself, the storm seems to have been heavier than in London. The drifts against doors and windows were so high that many of the shops were closed. A grand ball was postponed; the county families were "snowed up" in their homes. The great North was open to York via the Lincolnshire loop, but much obstructed.

At Liverpool, on Thursday, the merchants solaced themselves for the absence of the *Times* by getting up a snowball match, cotton-brokers against share-brokers. The combat was proceeding with vigour within the sacred precincts of 'Change, when in marched Captain Greig with a police force, and ordered the battle to cease. The brokers laughed, and renewed the engagement. Captain Greig ordered arrests to be made; and several merchants were marched off to Bridewell, under showers of snowballs from the "merchant princes" at large. The inter-

rupted battle was renewed: Captain Greig returned with a larger force; this time he was attacked and snowballed, and his forces were broken. He entered the news-room, and was hustled out. Ultimately, he withdrew his battalion and released his captives.

The Thames has attracted great attention, and early last week it became evident that if the frost held the river would be frozen over. The ice had accumulated in masses, the like of which had not been seen these fifteen years. Between Richmond and Brentford there has been skating. In the pool and above it the drift-ice soon rendered navigation all but impossible. The Margate, Gravesend, Woolwich, and Greenwich traffic was stopped on Tuesday; the Boulogne and Hull boats arrived with difficulty; and above London-bridge only heavy coal-barges, with additional hands, could make any way. A schooner was carried away above bridge before she could be made fast with a hawser; her crew dropped an anchor, it stuck in the ice, and she went under London-bridge; the mainmast was swept off, but here a second anchor caught the bottom, and she remained under the arch. The vessels in the pool took warning and strengthened their moorings. In consequence of the blocking-up of the river, Billingsgate was scantily supplied with fish. Nearly all the supply came by rail; cod was from 15s. to 25s. each.

By Monday, the aspect of London streets had entirely changed. The rain, which commenced to fall on Friday evening, and continued at intervals throughout the night, with a total absence of frost, returning again about ten o'clock on Saturday morning, and, pouring down without intermission until about three o'clock, completely changed the aspect of the metropolis. The mud became liquid, while the action of the rain, united with the mildness of the temperature, speedily converted huge masses of snow into water. The regular action of the drainage was thus restored, and our streets have put on something of the appearance to which we are accustomed after an ordinary prolonged rain. The Thames, also, is now freed from ice, and navigation has been resumed.

Many laughable and some serious consequences of the great snow storm are recorded: A lady residing in Liverpool was on Thursday morning to have been married to a gentleman from town, who was expected to join the guests assembled at the marriage feast. Instead of his bodily presence, however, the bride received a telegraphic message, conveying the intelligence that her intended was "snowed up" at Stafford.—The Rev. G. W. Brameld, M.A., vicar of East Markham, Nottinghamshire, was appointed to preach before the University on Friday, being Epiphany, but he telegraphed to apprise the Vice-Chancellor that he could not come, in consequence of the railway being blocked up with the snow.—Four or five engines arrived at the Leicester station, puffing and panting as though they had a mighty load behind. The drivers now for the first time discovered that they had not brought any passengers or carriages, but assured the station-master that the train was all right when they left Syston. The train had been due twelve hours, and the great number of engines was rendered necessary from the state of the rails, consequent on the heavy falls of snow. It passed Syston station in proper order, but on its reaching the Thurmarston cutting, the passenger carriages became detached from the engines and were left behind. The engines went back to find the lost carriages, and shortly returned with them in safety.

Amongst the serious consequences of the frost, London was threatened with the cutting off of its gas, arising from the dearth of coals. It appears that the gas companies had held consultation to see what was to be done in this emergency—the supply of coals that was in the river being sealed up by the frost and ice. The following story drives us back to our narratives of Arctic dangers:—

At Woolwich, on Thursday, a waterman got entangled amongst the floes of ice, and when a short distance below the Fagard his boat became frozen in. Mr. Osborn, recently boatswain of the *Phoenix*, and with her in her last voyage to the Arctic regions, volunteered with three other persons to proceed from the landing place, which was kept open, to the rescue, but the great quantity of floes coming down with the ebbing tide carried them some distance down the river, beyond the waterman and their boat became hemmed in amongst the hummocky ice and frozen in in a very short time, and they had to remain there without much covering and no shelter from ten A.M. to one o'clock P.M., when the tide began to flow and carried them up the river in the centre of a large mass of pieces of ice of various thicknesses. Fortunately, when they passed Charlton pier they approached within a short distance of the Marine Society's ship *Venus*, and a rope being thrown to them they succeeded in getting on board that vessel, where every attention was paid to their comfort by the lieutenant commander. The waterman, after being nearly two hours in his perilous position, with no person to aid him, was relieved by the great strength of a convict, who succeeded in throwing a line, with a plumb of lead attached, to him, and by the united exertions of ten men both himself and his boat were drawn over the ice to the shore.

Several persons have been frozen to death, whose bodies were found in exposed roads. The result appears to have been owing in most cases to intoxication. A travelling tumbler and his two little boys were seized by the frost when making their way from Sheffield to Glossop. They were found standing against a wall—the father with his legs frozen stiff, and his two children by the side of him, one on the other, dead! The father survives. A man was found dead by the roadside near Barnesgreen towards Middleton.

The gale of last week was most disastrous on the north-east coast of England. It caught, on Tuesday evening, a fleet of some 1,300 vessels in Yarmouth Roads on their downward voyage, and in making next

morning their destined ports of Hartlepool and Sunderland, nearly 100 ships went ashore; many have gone to pieces, and nearly all the rest are seriously injured. As yet the list of casualties is not made up, but that the coasting trade has again suffered most seriously is but too plain and mournful. It is computed that along the east and north-east coast, Suffolk, Norfolk, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, &c., upwards of fifty vessels were driven ashore, many of the crews perishing. At Tynemouth, the weather was very severe and wild. Many vessels were wrecked, but after a hard passage and many dangers, about 100 sail of light and laden vessels have got into a place of shelter in Leith Roads. The following is a summary of the casualties at Sunderland:—

Number of vessels, more or less damaged, thrown behind the North Pier	10
Total wrecks there	2
Lying damaged on the North Sand	10
Lying damaged at the South Pier	2
Total wrecks there	1
Total	25

Several persons were arrested and committed for stealing wrecked articles. The following paragraph will convey some notion of the scene at this port:—

At five o'clock P.M., the storm still continued with unabated violence; and, the tide being again making, there were several vessels seen in the offing. The north and south piers were crowded with spectators, and the deepest anxiety prevailed. At length, the brig *Medina*, of Cowes, bore up gallantly for the bar; but, just at the moment of entering between the piers, she was struck by a heavy sea, and driven behind the north pier. She for some time beat against the wreck of the *San Francisco*, but afterwards getting clear, was then driven farther north, and went ashore opposite the north dock. The north life-boat was immediately launched, but, the water being shallow, it was some time before she was got afloat. A number of gallant fellows went up nearly to their breasts in the water and shoved her off. At this time it was nearly dark; and the spectators, who crowded the sands, watched anxiously the life-boat depart through the gloom on her errand of mercy. She was for some time out of sight, during which period she succeeded in receiving the whole of the crew on board; and, on coming again in sight, she was welcomed by loud cheers from the multitude. A number of people rushed into the water and assisted to haul her on shore, and the crew, consisting of nine persons, were landed safely.

At Tynemouth, fourteen brave volunteers, in a life-boat, attempted to rescue the crew of a brig close in to the shore, in the presence of a crowd of spectators who lined the shore.

The vessel righted again and reeled back, and was again thrown on her beam-ends and completely immersed by a huge sea which swept over, and then rose again; this time with all her topmasts and rigging gone, and, as could be described by the naked eye from the shore, with the crew clinging to the upper portion of the remaining rigging. The life-boat was seen to near the vessel, but another sea swept over her again; the masts again dipped under its angry surface, and, as it swept past, the boat was carried away beyond the hope of rendering assistance to the crew still eagerly clinging for life to the shattered masts. The same fearful routine of brave effort and bitter disappointment was again and again tried in vain; and, in sight of a multitude on shore, one by one the ocean sucked into its engulfing embrace no fewer than six of the crew, who sank to rise no more. To reach the remainder was impossible, for, when the masts dipped, the sea which brought them down invariably heaved away on its swelling crest the life-boat and its crew, and only two were snatched from the waves after they had been floated off the now-shattered wreck.

Mr. E. J. Lowe, of Highfield House Observatory, Nottingham, furnishes the *Times* with the following table of temperatures of the coldest days at his observatory since 1809, the scale being that of Fahrenheit: 1810, February 21, 12 deg. above zero; 1814, January 9, 4 deg. above zero; ditto, January 13, 3 deg. above zero; ditto, January 14, 5 deg. above zero; 1815, January 23, 11 deg. above zero; 1816, Feb. 9, 2 deg. above zero; 1820, January 1, 6.5 deg. above zero; 1823, January 19, 6.5 deg. above zero; 1826, January 15, 11 deg. above zero; 1830, January 19, 10 deg. above zero; 1838, January 20, 9 deg. above zero; 1841, January 20, 4 deg. above zero; 1845, March 14, 13 deg. above zero; 1854, January 3, 4 deg. below zero. On the 14th of March, 1845, the temperature on the grass fell to 1 deg. below zero; on the 3rd inst. that temperature was 6 deg. below zero (as indicated by several corrected thermometers), and at four feet above the ground, upon a flat board, 8 deg. below zero.

Accounts from several places, both in the South and North, point to the large flocks of birds as indications of a continuance of severe weather.

A brilliant aurora borealis was observed at Tunbridge-wells on Tuesday evening. First yellow light, forming a well-defined arch, was observed; then clouds of light traversed the black space beneath the arch, and, disappearing, were followed by shooting streams of light; on either side of the arch a deep crimson flush. Altogether the phenomenon lasted about half an hour. During the aurora, the wind veered from N.N.W. to N.E., and the thermometer fell from 29 deg. to 21 deg.

In Scotland, the fall of snow began the week before last. "After a long continuance of splendid winter weather," says the *Inverness Courier*, of Thursday sennight, "we were visited on Monday night with a heavy fall of snow, which continued with little intermission till Wednesday morning. The effect was immediately visible in the irregularities of the mails; for the weather being dry and frosty, with a pretty strong north wind, the snow was drifted to a considerable extent. The Perth road has been pretty clear as yet, and the mail arrived yesterday and to-day only about four hours behind the regular time. On the Aberdeen road the storm has been more seriously felt

Yesterday, the mail due at five A.M. did not arrive till more than twelve hours after the time, and then the bags were carried on horseback from Forres. All the coaches plying on this road have been stopped. The mail going to Aberdeen yesterday could get no further than Nairn; the Star coach stuck in the snow at Auldearn; and the Defiance, which left here as usual this morning, turned back after going three miles. From Aberdeen the mail got as far as New Mills, near Forres. Here the guard was obliged to leave it. All trace of the road was in many places lost, and it was everywhere impassable for a vehicle. He succeeded, by dint of perseverance and good management, in carrying the mails safely on horseback to Inverness. The wind was Northerly, and blew strong, and the snow consequently drifted about very much. About one hundred men are engaged at various points clearing the road; and it is hoped, if the storm does not increase, that the coaches may be able to resume the communication in a short time. The North mail came in last night very little behind the usual hour, but it brought only the bags from Tain; from which we may infer that the Ord of Caithness and other points of the north road are impassable. The steamers arrived about the usual time. A correspondent at Elgin writes that that district is suffering severely from a heavy fall of snow, and that, in consequence, all modes of conveyance have become irregular in their arrival, particularly from Inverness. In Forres, the storm was very severe and protracted. Men are out in all directions cutting the roads; and should it keep fair, they will be passable in a day or two. We may state that the accounts from other parts of the country are generally to the same effect. In the neighbourhood of Kilsno, the snow lay six inches deep on Wednesday; and at Hawick it was not more than a foot in depth.

Since the above appeared, Inverness has been completely cut off from the southernly districts of Scotland. At Laurencekirk, a station on the Aberdeen line, successive trains from the south were obliged to deposit their passengers, not only to the entire occupation of all the available accommodation, but to the consumption of all the provisions in that town; so that the bakers of the place had, on Sunday week, to put their ovens in requisition to provide bread for the storm-stricken strangers. Such as could sought accommodation in the various inns, while the less fortunate had to content themselves with a bivouac in the Guild-hall, which was kindly appropriated to their use. On Monday, a large meeting was held in the same place to consult as to future proceedings, when it was resolved to dispatch an exploratory party of 300 or 400, with "spade and pickaxe armed," to endeavour to effect a north-east passage to the Granite City.

The fall of snow in Ireland was considerable, and the communication between London and Liverpool, so far as news is concerned, for a time, cut off—the steam-packets not venturing across the Channel. A few powerful steamers, however, on the trade between Liverpool and Dublin, Glasgow and Belfast and Drogheda, made safe and rapid runs across from the other side, having the gale right after them. The river Liffey was crowded with merchant vessels of all tonnage, coasters, and colliers, all weather-bound.

The true winter weather has been general in Europe. Our present accounts do not come down to a very late date, but their character corresponds with that of the weather at home. During the whole of the week before last the severe weather prevailed in France. Snow fell on Thursday. Ice drifted in blocks down the Seine. Friday was marked by those rapid alternations of temperature in Paris which were experienced in London. The thermometer in the morning stood at 11½ deg. Fahrenheit, and gradually rose to 35 deg. at six in the evening. Snow fell heavily; next day the trains did not arrive with the London journals; persons ventured on the ice of the Seine; and the Emperor and Empress drove out in a sledge along the quays. On Sunday, the state of the communications may be gathered from the fact that the Madrid journals had not arrived at nightfall. The usual New Year's Day fair was held in Paris; but, owing to a rapid thaw in the morning, the Boulevards were "one pool of slush and water," greatly to the detriment of the retail dealers who had erected booths.

The railway traffic between Havre and Paris was completely obstructed on Monday by the snow, and no train reached Paris from that place; but the line from Rouen to Paris was open. The trains from Brussels and the North of France have also been much retarded in their progress, but the line was not completely obstructed. Between Douai and Lille, the snow was so deep on the line that the directors of the company found it necessary to apply for the assistance of the troops in garrison at the former place.

Accounts from Vienna, to the 28th December, speak of a heavy fall of snow on the preceding night, and a high wind. In that part of Germany winters are generally very severe, "but it has rarely happened that in the month of December the thermometer has been so low"—18 degrees below zero, Reaumur's scale. "You will, therefore, not be surprised," says the writer, "to learn that sentries are not unfrequently frozen to death on their posts, although, when the weather is unusually cold, they are relieved every hour."

At Orsova, on the 24th, the ice was fixed; and "the thermometer at 5 deg. Fahrenheit, with a cutting wind."

The communication between Cronstadt in the Baltic and Oranienbaum, on the 20th December, was carried on by sledges and horses.

Accounts from nearly all sections of the United States, up to the 24th December, represented the weather as extremely cold; and those from the north stated that the canals and rivers were frozen over, and navigation stopped. The boats on the Hudson had been laid up in winter quarters.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

There has been serious floods in the neighbourhood of the Medway, arising from the rapid thaw.

Tapner, the Guernsey murderer, has, after a trial of thirteen days, been found guilty, and sentenced to execution.

Raglan Castle, the seat of the Duke of Beaufort, narrowly escaped being burned down by a fire last week.

The barque Hannah Maria, with 100 emigrants, has been lost off the south-east coast of Australia. Happily no lives were lost.

An accident happened on the line near Holyhead, the train getting off the rails, and running into a snow-drift. The driver and stoker were suffocated.

At the Bellfield cutting of the Lancashire and Yorkshire line, the latter portion of a train, destined for Liverpool (second and third class), got off the down line owing to congealed snow or ice lifting the wheels higher than the rails. The couplings broke, the carriages went upon the up-line, and a Liverpool luggage train propelled by two engines coming up in the other direction, immediately ran into them, and smashed three of them to pieces. Three of the passengers received severe bruises and cuts, but sustained no fatal injury. The trains were fortunately going at a very slow speed, owing to the snow.

Another collision took place at half-past four on Saturday morning. The mail-train to London, from Edinburgh, came up while a coal-train was across the line between Wigan and Newton-bridge, on the North Union Railway, and dashed into it, breaking three of the waggons to pieces. The mail-train was detained three hours by the blocking of the line, but, except from slight bruises, the passengers fortunately sustained no injury.

On Thursday, while the Eastern Counties line was obstructed with snow, a passenger-train came into collision with a train carrying labourers, between Thetford and Harling-road, on a single line of rails which had been cleared of snow. The four engines—each train had two—mounted into the air to the height of many feet, and on reaching the earth again were utterly valueless. Passing under these the carriages came into collision, and one second-class carriage was jammed into another like the sides of a telescope. One of the stokers was killed. The bodies of three of the labourers, with a carpenter, and three platelayers, were found dreadfully mutilated; and the Rev. Mr. Bell, a passenger, was picked up dangerously injured, and has since died. Several of the labourers also received contusions. No other passengers were hurt. Altogether, four lives were lost. An inquest on the bodies of George Baldwin, a platelayer, and Mr. Bell, was opened on Friday, and resumed on Monday.

On Friday, the 30th ult., a constable of Luton, on information, broke into the house of William Adams, an eccentric dealer in all sorts of goods, and found the old man in the last stage of starvation. The windows were all nailed down, and the doors fastened, and there is not a doubt that, but for the constable's interference, the unhappy man would have died in a very few hours. Adams has earned considerable notoriety as a street preacher against drunkenness. He is now under the care of his relations. He has been shut up a week.

A labouring man named James Holman, residing in the village of Crowan in Cornwall, has been committed for trial on the charge of murdering his wife Philippa with the poll end of a hatchet. She was found under the grate in his cottage with her face partially buried in the ashes and covered with blood. Several frightful wounds were found over the temple and the nose. There were also scalds on the back of both of her hands, but not any on the palms, nor were her clothes burnt. Blood was also noticed on the sleeve of Holman's coat, as well as on his trousers, just under the knee, while several spots were scattered over the room. A hatchet was found in an adjoining well.

There has been a bread riot at Crediton, in Devonshire. The high price of bread and other necessities has for some time past produced great discontent among the lower classes. The 4lb loaf is now selling at 9d.; wheat in many of the markets of Devonshire has risen to 11s. per bushel; animal food is very dear, being 7d. and 8d. per lb.; and all other articles are proportionately high. On Friday night, about 200 men, women, and children—most of them of dissolute habits, including a large number of "navvies"—armed themselves with sticks and stones, and proceeded to attack the bakers' shops. They demanded a supply of bread, but this was of course refused, whereupon the mob commenced hurling stones through the windows, which they smashed, and then helped themselves to the bread. The parish constables interfered, but they could do nothing with so large a body of persons. A number of special constables were sworn in, but the mob by this time appeared satisfied with their plunder and dispersed. Two of the principal offenders were apprehended and have since been committed for trial.

THE MYSTERIOUS MURDER AT ACTON.

Not much further light has as yet been thrown upon the shocking murder of Richard Medhurst, a lad of fourteen years of age, at Acton. The inquest was resumed before Mr. Coroner Wakley on Monday, and it was stated that Government had offered a reward of 100l. for the apprehension of the murderer. Medical evidence was given to the effect that no traces of poison were found in the intestines of the deceased, but that the poor lad probably died of disease produced by cold and starvation, aggravated by external violence. The inquiry was eventually adjourned for the purpose of seeing whether the perpetrator of the crime could not be produced. The police have since

been engaged in endeavouring to find some clue to the murderer, and on Saturday they apprehended a man named Wildbore, who keeps a public-house at Bishop's Stortford, Herts. Wildbore was taken into custody from the information of a man who stated that he made for him a chaise-cart similar to that in which the unfortunate youth had been driven. Gunn, a constable of the G division who has been engaged in endeavouring to obtain some information respecting the murder, called upon the boy George Jackson, who was with the deceased when asked by some man to go with him in his chaise-cart. The boy, on seeing Wildbore, said he was the man who got in the chaise-cart, and who took the boy Medhurst with him. The accused said he had not been in London for two years, but upon the boy persisting in his statement, Gunn brought his prisoner to London. He was examined on Monday, at Bow-street, before Mr. Corrie, when Jackson gave his evidence and identified the prisoner. The witness, however, contradicted himself on several material points. Mr. Hawkins, on behalf of Wildbore, submitted that there was not sufficient to justify a remand. Mr. Corrie had a private interview with Mr. Superintendent Martin and Sergeant Gunn with reference to the inquiries made, and on his return he said it was a case fit for further inquiry, and remanded the prisoner. Mr. Hawkins applied for bail to be taken, but it was declined.

The *Observer* still further complicates the mystery in the following statement: It is expected that ere long some very startling disclosures will take place respecting the circumstances attending the murder of the lad at Acton, as it appears that several young persons of both sexes have been missed from the neighbourhood under rather similar circumstances, and it is believed that there exists in or near the metropolis a gang of ruffians, banded together for the purpose of decoying young persons from their homes for some vile purpose, and afterwards making away with their victims.

POWER OF THE BRITISH NAVY. (From the *Times*.)

In the present state of affairs abroad it becomes a matter of general interest to the people of this country to ascertain, as far as possible, the condition of the effective naval forces at our disposal; and, from the increased activity which has been visible for some time past in the dockyards, we have no doubt that the Admiralty will be prepared to meet with the utmost promptitude all the demands which may be made upon the service. We understand that it is the intention of Government to raise the number of seamen and marines for the current year to 53,500 men, which is an increase of about 8,000 on the number voted for last year, and a further addition to the 5,000 men raised under the orders of Lord Derby's Administration. The total increase in the navy since 1852 may, therefore, be stated at about 13,000 men. Of the force now to be raised for the service of the fleet, 38,000 will be seamen and boys, and 15,500 marines. The unabated demand for ships and seamen in the merchant service, which is attributable to the extraordinary increase of our exports and imports, may render it a work of some difficulty summarily to raise so large an additional force, but, on the other hand, the improved condition of the seamen under the last regulations of the navy, the chance of prize money, and the call of the country, are additional inducements to volunteer for the service. A large proportion of our seafaring men are always abroad, and probably not more than 20,000 seamen, except those serving in the navy, are at any one moment in England. Some time must therefore elapse before the demands of the service are known to the class of men whom they most concern; but the manner in which 5,000 additional seamen have been raised in the past year, without any extraordinary stimulus, warrants the belief that the sailors of England will not be wanting to the flag of their country.

The present moment is remarkable for other reasons in the annals of the naval service, since it is destined to witness the transformation of the fleet into a steam navy. No one of the tens of thousands who were present at the naval review at Spithead in August last could doubt the expediency and necessity of the application of steam power to the largest ships. Already on that occasion a considerable squadron of line-of-battle ships moved by screw propellers was collected; but this force has since been largely increased, and our readers will peruse with interest a list of the line-of-battle ships and frigates now afloat and moved by this powerful mechanism:—

[The *Times* here supplies a list of screw steamships, numbering in guns 547, and in horse power 9,940, adding another list of paddle-wheel steamers, amounting in horse power to 473, and numbering in guns 169. In addition to these, a third list is given of screw steamships now building, which in guns amount to 1,060. The article then proceeds:—]

It appears from these returns that, setting aside the whole sailing fleet of England, we have at present afloat eleven steam line-of-battle ships, soon to be increased to twenty, five guardships with auxiliary steam power, and seven frigates fitted with screw propellers, which may be considered (with one or two exceptions) the finest vessels ever launched of their class. Of these screw line-of-battle ships only two (the *Sanspareil* and the *Agamemnon*) are in the Turkish waters, and the former of these two vessels does not, we fear, altogether answer to her name. The greater number of those already in commission belong to Admiral Corry's division, which is termed by the Admiralty the Western Squadron, though it may be considered to be on an experimental cruise; and four are still waiting for commission. So that, independent of the British squadron now in the Bosphorus, that

portion of the fleet which is not in the Mediterranean consists of an equal number of newer and more powerful ships than those under the command of Admiral Dundas. This result has been accomplished within the last few months on what is still a peace establishment. At that time the Baltic was open, our naval resources were not collected, and our coasts were comparatively undefended. We have now had time to prepare against the danger. Our armaments, indeed, are still of a very limited character, and cannot be compared to the stupendous exertions of the Emperor of Russia, who has set the whole army of his empire in motion, has forty line-of-battle ships in commission, has raised four millions and a-half of money from the Church, and commenced operations on a scale worthy of the campaign of Moscow. But no one will complain that Great Britain has been less violent and precipitate in her demonstrations of hostility, partly from her reluctance to surrender the last hopes of peace, and partly from a just confidence in that power which has never yet failed her.

OBITUARY.

LORD PLUNKET.

This nobleman died at his residence, near Dublin, on Thursday last, in his eighty-ninth year, and is honoured by a biographical notice in the *Times* of the following day, extending over three columns. He was the son of a Presbyterian (Unitarian) clergyman, minister at Strand-street Chapel, Dublin. The father died in debt, and left to his congregation the care of his family. This appeal was handsomely responded to, and a sufficient sum was subscribed to pay Mr. Plunket's debts, as well as to defray the expense of keeping the younger son at school, and completing the education of the elder, who soon found himself in a condition to return their assistance, as well as to contribute to the expenses of William Plunket, who had resolved to engage in the profession of the law, upon which he entered in 1787, having previously obtained a scholarship, and graduated with considerable credit at Trinity College, Dublin. He was called to the bar in 1788. Famed, even then, for his gifts of speech, he was introduced, through Lord Charlemont, into the Irish Parliament, and won renown by opposing the Government, as well as many fees by practice in the courts. In 1803, Mr. Plunket appeared as one of the Crown counsel at the trial of Robert Emmett; and in the autumn of the same year he was made Solicitor-General. Joining Lord Grenville in 1805, he was made Irish Attorney-General in the Ministry of "All the Talents," and quitted office with them in 1807. In 1818, he defeated Mr. Croker in a contest for the representation of Dublin University; and appeared in the Imperial Parliament as the extenuator of the policy of the Liverpool Cabinet. When the Marquis of Wellesley became Viceroy, on the death of the Marquis of Londonderry in 1822, Mr. Plunket was again made Attorney-General. During the Ministry of Mr. Canning, he was elevated to the peerage as Baron Plunket, and made Chief Justice of the Dublin Court of Common Pleas; a post he filled from 1827 to 1830. He had taken a conspicuous part in the movement for Catholic Emancipation, and when the Duke of Wellington brought forward that measure, he invited Lord Plunket to sit by his side in the House of Lords and take charge of the bill. Here the career of Lord Plunket in Parliament may be said to have closed. On the accession of the Whigs to power, he was made Lord Chancellor for Ireland; an office he held until 1841, when he reluctantly made way for Lord Campbell. He has since lived in the retirement of private life. At the close of his days he was oppressed with a heavy weight of human infirmity, but still at times showed gleams of intellectual power. He will be succeeded in the Peerage by his eldest son, the Bishop of Tuam.

FRANCIS PLACE.

Francis Place, the veteran reformer, died last week in London. He was for many years, says the *Daily News*, one of the best known political characters of the metropolis. Through a long career of great activity no man did more to serve individuals and the public. He was the counsellor and friend of all who had political injuries to complain of, or political wrongs to redress. Beginning life in a comparatively humble sphere, he raised himself to be the associate and co-operator in good works of all the leading political reformers and political philosophers of the age. He began his useful public life in 1793, at the age of twenty-one, as Secretary to the Constitutional Association—that body which numbered Home Tooke and Hardy amongst its members—and he participated at its close in the active operations of the Anti-Corn-law League, and in the Penny Postage agitation. He saw the beginning of the Corn-law, and opposed it with all his power, and he lived to see it extinguished. He saw his friends suffer for endeavouring to promote parliamentary reform, and he lived to see a wider reform of Parliament triumphant than they had striven for.

THE REV. W. B. COLLYER, D.D.

This venerable and learned Congregational minister, whose reputation, like that of Mr. Jay, was more brilliant with the last than with the present generation, departed this life on Monday morning, at seven o'clock, in the 73rd year of his age. It will be recollected that six years ago, owing to his increasing infirmities, the Rev. H. J. Gamble was appointed as his coadjutor in the ministry, and on the removal of that gentleman to Clapton, some months since, a co-pastor to the Independent Church and Congregation at Hanover Chapel, Peckham, was appointed in the person of the Rev. Mr. Betts. Latterly, Dr. Collyer has preached but little, and increased illness and sufferings during the past week prepared his friends for the event which has terminated a lengthened and distinguished career. For the following facts and observations we are indebted to the *Patriot* of Monday:

"Dr. Collyer was the oldest member of the London Board of Congregational Ministers, to which he was admitted at the beginning of the century. His ministerial education was received at Homerton College, where he was contemporary with his friend the Rev. Dr. Raffles. Like the late Mr. Jay and the late Dr. Cox, he was a boy preacher, having begun to preach at the early age of sixteen. Hanover Chapel, Peckham, was his first charge and his last—a stated ministry spread over upwards of half a century. To metropolitan hearers in general, however, he became more popularly known, by several series of winter lectures, delivered at various chapels in the city of London. These embraced the 'Scripture Facts,' 'Scripture Prophecies,' 'Scripture Miracles,' and 'Scripture Parables,' &c.; all of which were subsequently published by subscription, and met with an extensive sale. Towards the close of the year 1808, the University of Edinburgh, in token of their approbation of his 'Lectures on Scripture Facts,' conferred upon him the degree of Doctor in Divinity. He was subsequently honoured with the degree of LL.D., and was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. He was, in fact, the fashionable preacher of the day; the Duke of Kent and many of the nobility being among his frequent hearers. For this Dissenting minister, indeed, the father of Queen Victoria conceived so strong an attachment, that, had he been disposed to relinquish Nonconformity, he might, probably, have aspired to the highest honours in the Church. With all his mildness, however, Dr. Collyer held to his principles by a tenacious grasp; and the result of his intimate communings with royalty was, we believe, that he imparted benefits without accepting favours. Considering his immense popularity and his youth, it redounds greatly to the doctor's credit, that he received almost universal applause, and enjoyed a protracted popularity, without being loosened from his attachment to evangelical doctrine, and to the still less fashionable creed of a Protestant Dissenter. Although his writings, without being strikingly vigorous, betray no lack of manly thought and forcible expression, yet, his appearance and manner in the pulpit, the tones of his voice, and the style of his enunciation, were such as to expose him to the suspicion of being somewhat deficient in virility of character. His countenance possessed an almost feminine beauty; his air was marked with a languor liable to be confounded with affectation; and he delivered himself like one by whom so much exertion was hardly supportable. With all this, however, there was blended so much amiableness, feeling, eloquence, and truth, that even hearers who preferred a robust style, were constrained to acknowledge the charm which held the younger and softer part of his audience in spell-bound admiration. Nor can there be a doubt, that, from first to last, he responded with unrivalled efficiency to a peculiarity of taste to which, in the various development of religious inclinations, the most gifted of his contemporaries would not so successfully have adapted himself. For many years, Dr. Collyer had ceased to take a part in the more general religious movements of the day. This arose from no change of sentiment or abatement of interest in public affairs, but partly from natural reserve, and, still more, from an infirm state of health, which would have rendered it uncertain, whether such engagements, being made, could be fulfilled." Dr. Collyer's last public appearance was at the recognition services in connexion with the settlement of Mr. Gamble as the successor of the late Algernon Wells at Clapton Chapel, on which occasion he delivered the charge to his son in the Gospel, and was in a state of so great weakness as to be obliged to be supported from the vestry to the pulpit.

GENERAL LORD BERESFORD.

General Viscount Beresford, G.C.B., who expired at his seat in Kent, was a natural son of the first Marquis of Waterford, and is known chiefly for his military services. His first active service was in 1793, when, as Captain of the 69th, he disembarked with the troops that took possession of Toulon, and was generally engaged in the attacks that took place until the final evacuation of that place, when he went to Corsica, and was present at the attack and siege of St. Fiorenzo, Bastia, and Calvi. He served in Egypt, the Cape and Buenos Ayres, at which latter place he was made prisoner, and escaped after six months' confinement. He also served in the Peninsular, and was present in the battle of Vimiera. In 1809, he again proceeded to Portugal, to take the chief command of the Portuguese troops with the rank of Marshal. From that time Marshal Beresford's achievements are part of the history of the period, the greatest of them being his victory over Soult at Albuera. For these services Marshal Beresford subsequently received the dignities of Duke of Elvas, Marquis of Campo-Major, and Count Trancoso in Portugal, that of Viscount Beresford, in his own country, and several decorations. By his demise the Colonelcy of the 16th Regiment and the Colonelcy-in-Chief of the 60th Rifles is rendered vacant.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* very forcibly contends for a greater extent and variety of active sport for our hard-worked population—"Why, so long as we have green commons in summer, and frozen ponds and rivers in winter, should there not be cricket, racing, and wrestling, curling, skating, and methodical snowballing, as of old? The popular limbs and lungs want more, not less, exercise, as the popular brain becomes busier. It is very pleasant to see a silent crowd listening to a lecturer under a roof, and also to hear the gay laughter in the theatre, on pantomime nights; but we should also oftener see, wherever there are people's parks or any kind of playground within the four seas, the flush of exercise and the triumph of skill in active games, and hear the shouts of the players ringing through the frosty air. This is now the popular need in the matter of sport."

Literature.

PERIODICALS (JANUARY).

THE faithful perusal and review of that large proportion of our current literature which appears at stated intervals—never an easy, though rarely a tedious task—is a duty of additional obligation at the commencement of the year; when general characterisation, as well as specific notice, may be expected; and when there are new friends to announce, and old friends in a new dress to recognise. We have found the work sufficient at once to occupy and enliven the otherwise dreary days in which knee-deep snow became indefinitely deeper "sludge." We hope to many of our readers "magazine day" brought a similar relief.

The *British Quarterly* appears for the first time at the proper trimestrial period. Hitherto published in February, May, August, and November,—it will henceforth keep step with the quarter-days. It thus comes into more direct competition with its elder contemporaries. But it has nothing to fear from that closer rivalry. It is, to our thinking, fully equal to the *Edinburgh* in literary qualities, while much superior in independence, earnestness, and geniality. One such paper as that on "Dante's Beatrice," in the present number, might make the reputation of a Review; and the *British* already counts a dozen such. Its frequent articles on French literature form an important and very pleasing feature. Still more conspicuous and meritorious are the fullness of knowledge and spirit with which it treats foreign events and questions. On religious topics, it manifests substantial agreement with what its new prospectus describes as "the faith that has always obtained in the Evangelical Churches of Christendom;" but no uncandid disparagement of other faiths or their advocates. It is only on matters of domestic policy or principle that it fails to satisfy us—and that rather by silence than unsatisfactory speeches. Thus appreciating the *British Quarterly*, we heartily endorse its editor's appeal to "the thousands of thoughtful men and of Christian families," who might make it a "household book," but now only divide its possession with the members of a book-club or yet larger institution.

We have already indicated one article of high excellence in the present number. That we do not quote from it must be taken as a tribute to its embarrassing affluence of fine passages. The names of several other articles we append to the extracts made from them.

A BATTLE GAINED BY A BALLOON.

Devised on the very eve of the French Revolution, ten years had not elapsed after its first ascent, before its inventors were eager to make it [the balloon] a weapon of war. The only difficulty in the way, was the necessity of employing sulphuric acid to furnish the hydrogen requisite for the inflation of the balloon, which would waste the sulphur so needful for the revolutionary gunpowder. Lavoisier came to the rescue with his method of making hydrogen from pure water by passing it over red hot iron, and it was found possible to furnish, at a very small cost, 17,000 cubic feet in four hours by this process. A military balloon school was immediately organised in the neighbourhood of Paris, with fifty young soldiers attached to it; and a balloon, thirty-two feet in diameter, was kept constantly full of gas as a practising machine. In this, the balloon-colonel ascended with a single pupil at a time, to the height of 500 or 600 feet, the balloon being anchored by a rope controlled by a windlass, limiting, and to a certain extent guiding its ascent.

In this way each pupil was taught to make observations, and the wide horizon which was commanded from an altitude of some hundred feet, by the aerial ship of war, appeared to constitute it an invaluable means of reconnoitring the enemy. Accordingly, with all the energy of the people and of the period four great balloons were constructed, one for each of the French armies, which soon found themselves burdened with a novel species of "impediments." . . . One of them accompanied the army into Belgium, and ascended from the plain of Fleurus, in June, 1794, to the height of several thousand feet, the windlass machinery being so arranged that it could be kept stationary at any elevation. From this vantage-ground the disposition of the Austrian forces could be traced with the minutest precision; and the information thus furnished to General Jourdan enabled him to win the battle of Fleurus. . . . The balloon was observed by the enemy, who opened their batteries upon it as it was ascending, but it quickly rose out of the reach of cannon shot, and several reconnoissances were completed in perfect safety.—*Recent Scientific Ballooning.*

HYPOTHETICAL ORIGIN OF CHINESE CHRISTIANITY.

That the Druses look to China as the place where Hakeem and Hamzé are to reappear, cannot fail to strike us as very remarkable at this moment. During the late war between the English and the Chinese, they made frequent inquiries as to the state of "the flowery land," a thing which would have greatly puzzled any one unacquainted with this ancient tradition. One of the earliest apostles of their faith is said to have preached the doctrines of Hamzé with great success, making numerous converts in Persia, Khorasan, Afghanistan, Tartary, China, &c.; and, as Col. Churchill suggests, it might be worth

while to make inquiries of British residents in these parts whether any trace can now be found of their doctrines. Still more interesting would it be if we could discover that the success of Tien-te and his secret councillor in China, had induced them to see in him the fulfilment of their expectations regarding Hakem and Hamzé. He assumes a species of divinity, while his followers appear to possess certain symbolical signs; and it is possible—we throw out the suggestion for those who are able and willing to study so occult a subject—that the remnants of the Ismaelee faith mingled with the traditions of the old Nestorians who took refuge in Tartary and China some twelve centuries ago, may have resulted in the spurious Christianity of the Chinese insurgents of the present day.—*Syria.*

COLERIDGE A BEACON-LIGHT.

We do not doubt that, to many, his instructions were beneficial, enabling them in some vital degree "to reach the light without passing through the darkness;" we speak of those who, by training, early prejudice, and other influences, were far removed from the purest sources of religious instruction. That his writings also, as being very suggestive—frequently most suggestive, by the contradiction and antagonism they excite, have tended to deepen the channels of religious thought in many minds, and to open out wider and more comprehensive views in some directions, may, perhaps, be admitted. But when we have said this, we have said all we can honestly say. Even the truth which his system embraced, was exhibited in a one-sided and exaggerated form; it was often confused and indefinite, and based to a great extent on principles that were most unsound, because they were extreme, and were borrowed from philosophies that never can be consistently harmonised with the Gospel. Other characteristic errors we have indicated sufficiently already. We cannot adopt the persuasion that the errors and defects we have remarked have had no evil consequences; but to trace them would require great delicacy and candour, and a fuller discussion than we can now attempt. Suffice it that we would counsel those who may be inclined to look to Coleridge as the revealer of broader and deeper views of the truth, not to mistake that which should be a beacon to warn, for a light to lead. Let them be sure that they really understand his system, before they embrace it, or borrow from it. Let them fairly ascertain his principles, and consider whither they tend. Let them not too readily, like Aladdin's bride, take new lamps in exchange for old ones. If they have been reared in a school where religion has been commended to the heart, by the spiritual and transforming power radiating from the cross, as the point to which all the Divine perfections converge, and from which both righteousness and love pour forth their rays; if they have thus seen the truth in its full-orbed beauty, they have no excuse for turning aside to a fainter luminary, whose light is often refracted by mists and vapours, or half hidden by clouds.—*Coleridge as a Theologian.*

LATEST ESTIMATE OF PALMERSTON.

We were once among the class of persons who gave his lordship credit for a considerable degree of patriotism and courage. But our faith in him has been on the wane for some time past. In our last number, we spoke of him as an official who had proved to be much more tricky than truthful; and who, while talking so as to blind our English Liberals, has been capable of acting so as to play into the hands of the enemies of all freedom. The man who did more to ensure than to prevent the fall of Poland and Hungary, will hardly be the man effectually to resist the Autocrat of Russia on the Danube, or in the Black Sea. We have no hope of good in our foreign policy from his influence. Whatever he touches will be more marred than made by his handling.—*Our Epilogue of Affairs.*

The *Westminster Review* pleases us best where the *British* fails to please—in the breadth and boldness of its home politics. It opens the new year with an article on "Constitutional Reform," the peculiarity of which is, the courageous recommendation that, if we must have the representation of interests instead of the representation of numbers, a group of boroughs be allotted to the working-man interest—"places containing from ten to twenty thousand inhabitants," with "a special rule of enfranchisement"—"a qualification little, if any, short of universal suffrage." A singularly fair review of the disastrous affairs classed as "Strikes and Lock-outs," closes with the advocacy of "associative experiments," and the recommendation of a "parliamentary committee of inquiry."—On our relations to European liberty and progress the *Westminster* writes continuously, and with glowing, though not intemperate, eloquence. It this month takes a retrospect of "England's Foreign Policy" from the reign of Elizabeth to that of Clarendon, which must make all who read at once proud and ashamed of the nation—whose sentiment has been almost uniformly right, whose influence almost as uniformly misdirected. We regard this paper, with the exception of a few sentences, as a very valuable contribution to popular intelligence and popular impulse; we should like to see it reprinted and widely circulated, even without the deletion or modification of the passages to which we object.—The heading "English Religion: its Origin and Present Types," will attract a multitude of readers, of widely different opinions, but united in the anticipation of high intellectual entertainment. Of that, none will be disappointed. In the writer's analysis of "the religious sentiment," we see nothing to offend. Of his vivid portraiture of the Reformation period, English Churchmen cannot deny the

truth, however caustic the admission; and as the sketches of contemporaries are yet to come, personal or class sensibilities are not harshly touched. We were in the act of marking for copy a fragment of the historical portraiture referred to, when we lighted on a foot-note containing a story to which nothing may be preferred:—

The zest with which this ecclesiastical garrison-duty is sometimes performed hardly comports with the traditional dignity of the Anglican gentleman and scholar. We remember an incident which occurred in a village situated among the hills of one of our northern dioceses. On a fine summer evening we had gone, at the close of the afternoon service, for a stroll through the fields overlooking the valley. When we had walked half a mile or so, an extraordinary din arose from the direction of the village, sounding like nothing human or instrumental, larynx, catgut, or brass, though occasionally mingled with an undeniable note from some shouting stentor. It was evident, through the trees, that a crowd was collected on the village green: and not less so, that a farmer and his wife, who were looking on from a style hard by, understood the meaning of the scene below. On asking what all the hubbub was about, we were told by the good woman—"It's all of our parson, that's banging out the Methody wi' the tae-board." Being curious in ecclesiastical researches, we hastened down the hill, in spite of the repulsion of increasing noise. On one side of the green was a deal table, from which a field-preacher was holding forth with passionate but fruitless energy: for on the other side, and at the back of the crowd, was the parochial man of God, who had issued from his parsonage, armed with its largest tea-tray and the hall-door key, and was battering off the Japan in the service of orthodoxy. No military music could more effectually neutralise the shrieks of battle. The more the evangelist bellowed, the faster went the parish gong. It was impossible to confute such a "drum ecclesiastic." The man was not easily put down: but the triumph was complete: and the "Methody's" brass was fairly beaten out of the field by the Churchman's tin.

—"Propertius," the Roman elegiast, and "Matthew Arnold," a too-long neglected poet of our own, "Science at Sea," and "Geoffrey St. Hilaire," the great French naturalist, are the topics of other articles; of which we have read enough to know that they are well worth reading thoroughly.

The *New Quarterly* makes its promised exposure of the existing relations of authors, publishers, and the book-buying public. The writer's opening assertion of the natural incapacity of men of genius, or of the proper literary temperament, for the management of pecuniary affairs, is not of universal acceptance; but it certainly expresses a general fact, if there be only approximate truth in the revelations that follow. Thus, we read that Thomas Carlyle received his first remittance of profits on the "writing of books" from an American firm, though he had long been famous as an author, and was a regular contributor to the quarterly reviews and principal magazines! and this simply from having worked with his publishers on the system of half-profits. It is alleged to be a rule with these gentlemen, very rarely to permit authors so related to them to see a farthing of profit; and there are given, in proof of this allegation, several balance-sheets, in which a reasonable modification of certain items, under the publisher's control, converts the author's loss into a handsome profit. The article is certain to attract much attention, and equally so to enlighten both professional and amateur book-makers as to the right method of dealing with that abhorred of literati—the publisher.—The review departments of the *New Quarterly* are characterised by its usual comprehensiveness, vigour, and dash.

The *Journal of Psychological Medicine* is even unusually replete with curious facts and important principles, suggested or applied. Its opening article—"Modern Dæmonology and Divination"—is of universal interest; containing much to surprise, and not a little to humiliate, beside matter of grave speculation.—To the physician, the jurist, and the philanthropist, this journal should be a regular associate.

The *Art Journal* commences its sixth volume with a promise of, at least, equal excellence to any of its predecessors. It still draws upon the Vernon Gallery—a magnificent mine of artistic wealth—for one of the two line engravings given in each number; the second, is selected from the works of British or foreign masters. We have this month, Goodall's "Raising the May Pole," and Stothard's "Vintage." Among the wood-cuts, are superb illustrations of Proverbial Philosophy. The literature of the number is, as usual, subordinate to art purposes. Its influence as an educator is not less to be commended than the enjoyment, pure and lasting, which it confers.

Blackwood carries, as is his wont, a sting in his tail—a waspish article on the Government and their supposed policy. Happily, all the other traits of "Old Ebony" with which time has made us familiar, are equally well

sustained. A French book of pictures from Persia gives some timely information of that oriental obscurity. Another French book of experiences in England, forms the basis of a very entertaining article. Professor Johnstone (as is understood) writes now on "The Narcotics we Infuse," making out even a better case for the tea-drinker than for the tobacco-smoker. The story of "The Quiet Heart" is continued through several chapters of charming description and narrative.

The *Eclectic* opens with an article from a pen that will not be hidden by the anonymous,—on Professor Wilson, of whom we regret to hear as of "a sinking sun." The professor's person is described by many hyperbolic words and metaphors; and current stories of his eccentric habits are strung together into an entertaining paragraph. We have second articles on the literature of "Angling" and on "Prophecy and the Porte." The importation of the prophetic element into the very matter-of-fact Eastern question, is justly reprobated. A lengthened examination of Maurice's Essays, and the controversy they originated, is concluded with an acquittal of the King's College authorities, but an expression of high esteem for dismissed late coadjutor.

Tait's Edinburgh Magazine is almost equally remarkable with the *Westminster* for renascent vigour. It recommences with the present year the valuable, though not very attractive papers, statistical and historical, bearing the initials of a Scottish M.P. The author of "A Working-man's Way in the World" contributes the opening chapters of a new story. The "Biographical Mania,"—particularly prevalent among the titled and clerical classes,—is good humouredly ridiculed, and threatened with more severe treatment if it do not abate.

Hogg's Instructor hopefully aspires to the rank of a first-class monthly. Articles on current topics, alternate in its columns with criticism, poetry, and a graceful variety of fiction. Mr. Gillfillan contributes this month a sketch of Lord Brougham,—unaccountably passing over, in the series of "Modern British Orators," Fox, Erskine, and Canning.

The *Christian Spectator* has several new features—an introductory "Glimpse of the Western Indies," a chapter of Biblical illustrations—"Notes on Jonah," and a record of missionary intelligence. But the most attractive announcement on its cover is that of "An Unpublished Letter of the late Dr. R. W. Hamilton,"—a reply, characteristically full of good-humour and scholarship, to a complaint of injustice to the fame of Socrates.

We are glad to find the *Homilist* continuing its bi-monthly issue; and should be still better pleased at its more frequent appearance. That it is in so small demand admits, we fear, of no interpretation complimentary to the popular estimate of the preacher's office, either in the church or family. As a Sunday-evening book for households beyond ear-shot of the pulpit, it is the best we know. It is not even yet too late to read, from the desk or table, the Homily in the present number, on "The New Year; or, The Absolute in Human History." The exercise would be a half-hour in contact with weighty, solemn, and eloquent thoughts.

The *Wesley Banner* is not a mere denominational organ, but is much more fitly characterised as the "Christian Family Visitor." It is of twelve months' standing, and must have carried, during that time, a large amount of edifying, and not seldom enlivening, reading, into the households of the Wesleyan reformers.

Our *Friend* is introduced as "a monthly miscellany for all classes." We fear, however, though its aim be the diffusion of religious sentiment, it will not be acceptable where such influences are most needed—and that because its pervading tone is dulness; but as the contents of this first number appear to have been selected under the coercion of "too much matter," we may hope that the animating element stands over for the next.

George Cruikshank's Magazine is sure of a hearty welcome from young and old. The latter, perhaps, may murmur a complaint of falling off, and refuse to believe in Frank Fairleigh (Mr. Smedley) as the editorial successor of immortal Tom Hood. But the rising generation will see an infinitude of fun in the "Tail of the Comet," wherein Cruikshank's most delicate graver depicts all events and personages of the year. None can refuse to see wit in the embodied pun of the "Seat of War" (a barrel of gunpowder and a hedge of bayonets), nor will the provocations of "Miss Polly C—" prove unprovocative of mirth to any but the dull or finical.

Home Thoughts is one of the least pretentious of the monthlies, but not the least meritorious. That it finds a remunerative sale at the small charge at which it is published, is an instance of the insatiable appetite for reading which resides somewhere; and the elevated tone which it maintains is a proof that that appetite is not a vicious one. Mr. Geldart becomes a contributor with this number, and promises to add, through its columns, one more to her many excellent little books.

The *Home Companion* takes a new and decidedly improved shape. By an arrangement with Mr. Alaric Watts, the publication in its pages of the numerous *nouvelettes* contributed by eminent writers to the *Souvenir*, when under his management, is secured. "The burial-place of Milton," is the subject of a woodcut and article in the opening number of the year.

The *Leisure Hour* must certainly rank first of the large class of weeklies that are designed to benefit by their contents the thousandfold purchasers likely to be attracted by combined cheapness and tastefulness. In these

respects it excels. It is not all we could wish for popular reading: from its connexion with the Religious Tract Society, it is bound to keep silence on several points on which we wish the Church to have the ear of the people. But we are heartily glad that so much of healthy literature, and so many good pictures, find weekly purchasers enough to have sustained the *Leisure Hour* through two years.

The Museum of Science and Art is a weekly penny tract of sixteen pages, edited by no less a celebrity than Dr. Lardner. It differs from the *Circle of Sciences*—with which it starts evenly—in being designed rather for general readers than students. The monthly part before us is certainly a wonderful and gratifying proof of the descent of knowledge from the high places in which she was wont to dwell to the "business and bosoms" of the common people.

Chambers' Edinburgh Journal terminates this week its highly honourable career of twenty-two years. It is, however, only a momentary extinction—the substantial existence running on, with renewed strength and charms, under the less restricted title of *Chambers' Journal*.

The Story of Ancient Nineveh. "Library of Biblical Literature," No. 1. London: W. Freeman, 69, Fleet-street.

THE prestige of "a good beginning" is here secured to the "Library of Biblical Literature," to which we referred last week as one of the literary projects for the new year. We see, however, that it is a *monthly*, and not a *weekly* serial, as we then stated. "The Story of Ancient Nineveh"—the interest of which is so novel, yet so old, and has been so well-worked, and yet is apparently inexhaustible—this wonderful, solemn, and thought-quicken story, is here told with a true appreciation of its most significant facts and events, and with a power of representing them vividly and forcibly, which exhibit both great abilities and literary practice in the writer—and excite a pleasing surprise, that so much of a mighty historic past, marvellously recreated by the discoveries of the present time, can be so comprehensively and clearly communicated, within the brief compass of thirty-two pages. The author looks at his subject as it presented itself to the minds of scholars, previous to recent discoveries; and then shows how great a change those discoveries have brought over the state of our knowledge of Assyria. He gives the old traditional history of Nineveh and its kings, for which Ctesias may be cited as the chief authority; then states the general facts now held to be settled with some degree of certainty; and, finally, by means of the results of the labours of Layard, Rawlinson, and others, presents what may be considered an authentic summary of Assyrian events. We must add that this number is illustrated by two full-page engravings and a sketch-map.

As our own advertising columns contain an exposition of the views and purposes which will direct the publication of this "Library," we need only refer to them with this remark: that the projected work is one greatly needed for the great mass commonly described as "general readers," to whom formal, scientific, or encyclopædic works on biblical subjects are both unattractive and unmanageable; and especially is demanded, while secular and irreligious literature is multiplied on every hand, for our young men, our Sunday-school teachers, and the more intelligent portion of the working-classes. If carried on as ably as it has been commenced, it will take a place amongst popular works on subjects related to the Bible, higher and more important than the well-known and admirable "Information" and "Papers for the People" have done in the department of general knowledge.

The Genealogies of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, as contained in the Gospels of St. Matthew and St. Luke, Reconciled with each other, and with the Genealogies of the House of David. By LORD ARTHUR HERVEY, M.A., Rector of Ickworth. Cambridge: Macmillan and Co. London: T. Hatchard and Co.

A LARGE volume on "The Genealogies" is, perhaps, not a very attractive or promising book, even to those who, as scholars or Christian apologists, are interested in the difficult and perplexed subject. Yet, so far from satisfactory must those schemes most generally in vogue be admitted to be, that this field of inquiry may to some present attractions of its own, and to all will seem a fairly open field for new investigation and conjecture. Lord Hervey has brought to the subject great ability and large learning; and, so far as we are acquainted with its literature—which is not very extensively—has treated it with a superior comprehensiveness, ingenuity, and mastery of hand, which will ensure the careful consideration of his theory, and the respectful remembrance of his work, in all future attempts to adjust these genealogical difficulties.

He has attempted to show—and with great probability, or at least plausibility—that both Matthew and Luke give the genealogy of our Lord through Joseph, his reputed and legal father; the former giving the succession to the throne of Solomon, whose legal heir and representative Joseph was; while the latter, giving Joseph's real parentage, traces his lineage to Nathan. The question would then seem to arise, Whether, on this theory, these genealogies be *really* anything more—if we hold to the miraculous conception—than pretences, blinds, by means of which to commend Jesus to the Jews as the Messiah? Lord Hervey maintains, however—we will not say satisfactorily, for we yet have doubts—that it is no objection to them that they exclude the lineage of Mary, as she was, in all probability, the cousin-german

of Joseph, descended from the same grandfather, and therefore having precisely the same pedigree.

His next labour, and one of no small magnitude, and achieved with remarkable skill, is to show the *mutual agreement* of these genealogies with the Old Testament genealogies of the house of David; and, by the process, to reconcile the glaring discordances between the *genealogy* and *chronology* of the house of David, which the learned have long enough confessed, but failed to remove.

Whatever measure of acceptance the results arrived at by the author may gain from scholars, or whatever may be the interest taken in his ultimate object, it will be generally acknowledged that this volume brings to us collaterally some important facts, and some valuable fruits of scholarship. By two conjectural, and highly-probable, emendations of the text, Lord Hervey has been able to make it appear—"for the first time," he says, "since the earliest days of Christianity"—that there is an exact agreement between Matthew, Luke, and the First Book of Chronicles, in respect to the two generations following Zerubbabel. It is impossible briefly to explain that correction; we may only say that Section 5, of Chap. IV., in which it occurs, seems to us to be an important contribution to biblical reconciliation. We would further name, as having a serviceable character, the elaborate classification, in Chap. VI., of the names frequently occurring in the house of David under their common roots. And, finally, some useful lights are thrown on particular prophecies, which will assist the steps of the student or interpreter.

Lord Hervey is entitled to the praise of having opened up new views of his subject, and of having treated it with a learned pains-taking not often exceeded. It seems to us, too, that in view of the kind of criticism to which the Old and New Testament records are now being subjected, his work has especial importance and claims.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Chambers' Pocket Miscellany. W. and R. Chambers.
Census of Great Britain.
The White Shroud. Gall and Inglis.
The Parables of F. A. Krummacher. N. Cooke.
Rambles among Mountains. W. B. King.
Hester and Elinor. J. Chapman.
The Cross and the Dragon. Smith, Elder, and Co.
The Days, Months, and Seasons of the Year. N. Cooke.
A Brage Beaker with the Swedes. N. Cooke.
The Bible and the People. Ward and Co.
The Family Friend. W. S. Orr and Co.
Evangelical Magazine. Ward and Co.
Bible's Review. Piper.
The Seventh Angel. W. Strange.
Essay on Human Happiness. Blackader.
Sabbath Evening Reading on St. Mark. A. Hall and Co.
Zorab and other Poems. Longman and Co.
Botanical Illustrations of Scripture. W. Blackwood.
Pope's Works—Essays, Satires, Pieces. N. Cooke.
The Principles of Education. Longman and Co.
Pelham. G. Routledge.
Lectures of Self-Improvement. Longman, Brown, and Co.
Whittington and His Cat. Dean and Son.
Little Ferns for Fanny's Little Friends. N. Cooke.
The Lamp of Love. Gall and Inglis.
Timpson's Bible Triumphs. Partridge and Oakley.
The Journal of Sacred Literature. Blackader and Co.

Gleanings.

The Czar was burnt in effigy a few days ago at Cupar—a band of music and torchbearers assisting.

Cases of mercantile embarrassment have been unusually rare during the past year.

Dr. Raffles, of Liverpool, has just delivered his forty-third annual address to the young in that town.

A man died at Moscow on the 11th October, aged 122 years.

A Prospectus has been issued of a company for constructing railways at the Cape of Good Hope.

The *Northern Whig* announces the completion of the electric telegraph between Ireland and England.

Several hundreds of Mormons have again left Copenhagen for America.

An engine-driver on the Western Valleys Railway killed a fine woodcock a few days ago with a piece of coke.

The orphan child of one of the oldest of the Irish baronets was admitted, a few days since, in the Wanstead Infant Orphan Asylum.

The success of the new stamp act is immense. Already 400,000L more than Mr. Gladstone calculated has been realised. Some thirty-five millions have been sold.

It is understood that a bill is in preparation for the abolition of the practise of locking up juries "without meat, drink, fire, or candles, until they come to a verdict."

Of every 1,000 persons, one reaches 100 years of life; of every 100 only six reach the age of sixty-five, and not more than one in 700 lives to eighty years of age.

It is estimated by the census tables that the number of men engaged in London alone upon omnibuses on the Sunday is as many as 6,000.

A munificent manufacturer in Leicester has undertaken to provide underclothing—shirts, stockings, and drawers for a thousand Turkish soldiers.

It is estimated that on Sunday week there were not fewer than 79,000 persons on the ice in St. James's and Hyde parks.

A donkey has just died at Farnham All Saints having attained to the venerable age of seventy years and upwards.

A modern philosopher taking the motion of the earth on its axis at seventeen miles a second, says that if you take off your hat in the street to bow to a friend, you go seventeen miles bareheaded without taking cold.

The Ipswich borough police-officers are to be allowed to wear moustaches and beards. They preferred a request to the watch committee for permission to dispense with the razor, which was readily granted.

Professor Owen was entertained to dinner, a few days ago, in the model of the iguanodon (the largest of extinct or living British quadrupeds), at the Crystal Palace.

Twenty-one gentlemen were accommodated in the interior of the gigantic animal. Its length is thirty-five feet, and the girth round the body about twenty-five feet.

The Emperor and the Empress, it is said, occasionally walk out in Paris in a sort of incognito. They last week visited altogether *en bourgeois* a well-known jeweller's shop in the Rue de la Paix.

At the sale of a vessel by Mr. Jackson, auctioneer, of Whitehaven, at the Albion Hotel, last week, one of the bidders, who was in Glasgow at the time, actually made his biddings by telegraph!

A certain Marion of Auxerre has been fined for having named his child Robespierre. It appears that by the French law Christian names must be borrowed either from any of the authorised almanacs or from ancient history.

Dr. Veron relates in his "Memoirs" that Dr. Brotonneau of Tours was called in for Louis Napoleon who complained of exhaustion and enervation, "You smoke twelve or fifteen cigars a day," said he, "smoke less, and your symptoms will disappear."

When Batty's menagerie paid a visit to Montrose a few days ago, "a natural" happened to observe the elephant coming when he remarked, "Sae, man, there's the elephant comin'—tail foremost, nae less!"

The Americans are extending the principle of encouragement to native productions. At the Georgia State fair, a premium was offered for "the best-looking baby." As a purse of 50L is offered for the best baby at the fair of next year, an active competition may be expected.

The British and Foreign Bible Society has, through the Bishop of Manchester, presented to the Free Library in that city twenty-one volumes of its publications, comprising the whole or portions of the Scriptures in twenty different languages.

According to *Tait*, Elizabeth Squirrel of Shottisham, who, some people profess to believe, abstained from food for more than twenty-five weeks, is still alive, though without the power of swallowing, her only nourishment being derived by means of the absorbent vessels of the mouth. She is described as being peculiarly sensible to magnetic influences, and during sleep is able to foresee all the changes to which she is subject in the history of her mysterious maladies!

The following is the account of the advertised amount, during each month of the last year, of the sums received by the Chancellor of the Exchequer from anonymous correspondents, for unpaid taxes or "conscience money:" January, 1,323L 2s. 2d.; February, 115L; March, 60L; April, 69L 17s. 6d.; May, 918L 19s. 8d.; June, 1,661L 18s. 4d.; July, 1,64L 16s.; August, 65L 13s. 6d.; September, 15L; October, 88L 15s. 10d.; November, 60L; December, 220L 11s. 6d.; total, 4,758L 14s. 6d.

The Emperor of the French is more successful in coercing the husbands, than in dictating to the wives, of Paris. It is well known that he has been meddling with ladies' dresses; prescribing among other things a grand "Court Mantle," which is very unpopular. Husbands don't like it on account of the expense, and wives shrink from the dancing master's drill, without which the wearers of the costume cannot hope to avoid appearing ridiculous. The Empress alone has train-bearers; but other ladies must concentrate all the powers of their mind upon their trains to escape a catastrophe. At the reception of New Year's Night there were not more than 200 ladies present out of 800 invited.

A "snow plough" was in operation on one of the railways during the obstructions of last week and is thus described by an eye-witness: The plough was propelled by five engines, linked together, and attaining such a speed that the wheels were literally glowing with fire from excessive friction. On entering the snow drifts, the machine thus urged appeared irresistible for a time, and the snow flew in millions of particles—till engines, tenders, drivers, and everything seemed to disappear in clouds of fleecy whiteness, and were utterly lost to sight. When at last the train was brought to a stand by the resistance of the snow, it was taken back, and the attack thus renewed again and again.

The following is a good sample of American wit: A dinner was given by one of Governor Morris's friends, when he was about departing for Europe. Bishop Moore and his wife were of the party. Among other things that passed in conversation, Mr. Morris observed that he had made his will in prospect of going abroad; and, turning to Bishop Moore, said to him: "My reverend friend, I have bequeathed to you my whole stock of impudence." Bishop Moore replied: "Sir, you are not only very kind, but very generous; you have left me by far the largest portion of your estate." Mrs. Moore added: "My dear, you have come into the possession of your inheritance remarkably soon."

BIRTHS.

January 5, at Roseberry-villas, Kentish-town, the wife of the Rev. JAMES FLEMING, of a son.

January 5, at Kensington, the wife of HENRY COLE, Esq., C.B., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

January 3, at Star-lane Chapel, Stamford, by the Rev. W. H. Stowell, D.D., President of Cheshunt College, assisted by the Rev. B. O. Bendall, minister of the chapel, the Rev. JOSEPH TWIDALE, of Melton Mowbray, to CATHERINE, eldest daughter of T. W. ASHBY, Esq., of Stamford.

January 4, by license, at the Baptist Chapel, Blakeney, Gloucestershire, by the Rev. W. Copley, Mr. J. MOUNTJOY, of Cinderford, East Dean, to SARAH, only daughter of the late Mr. T. PENN, of Blakeney.

January 6, at the Baptist Chapel, East Dereham, Norfolk, by the Rev. J. T. Wigner, of Lynn, Mr. J. HUMPHRIES, Halesworth, Suffolk, to ELIZA CATHERINE, youngest daughter of W. WARNER, Esq., of North Suddenham, near East Dereham.

DEATHS.

December 27, at his father's residence, near Abergorlech, of a lingering consumption, Rev. EVAN JONES, the much-respected minister of the Independent Churches of Wern and Penycu, near Newquay, Cardiganshire, aged twenty-six.

December 28, at Torquay, ALEXANDER, eldest son of the late A. SHARMAN, Esq., of Bedford, aged twenty-four.

December 29, at Brixton, SARAH ANN, the infant daughter of the Rev. S. ELDRIDGE.

December 31, deeply lamented, SARAH TUPPER, of Crocker House, Newport, Isle of Wight, aged forty-three.

December 31, Mr. JOHN PARRY, grocer, Llandudoch, Montgomeryshire, aged seventy-three.

January 1, Mr. RICHARD HANBURY GURNEY, of Thickethorn House, Norwich. "The deceased gentleman," says the *Norfolk News*, "has long been known to our fellow citizens as one of the chiefs of the Gurney family, the senior partner in the bank, a munificent contributor to the city charities, a representative for many years of this city in Parliament, and throughout his life a staunch supporter of the Liberal cause."

January 1, in Foxley-terrace, Kensington, FRANCIS PLACE, sen., in his eighty-second year.

January 1, at Twickenham, at the age of thirty-six, ELIZABETH, the beloved wife of G. D. B. BRACKNELL, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, barrister-at-law.

January 2, at Clapham-park, Surrey, after a painful illness of eighteen months, MARY CATER, the wife of G. LONG, Esq., and youngest daughter of the late E. SMITH, Esq., of Chesterfield.

January 3, at Hastings, aged seventy-three, MARY ANN, widow of the late Mr. J. UBBY, formerly of High-street, Gosport, Hants.

January 3, at Toftrees, Fakenham, Norfolk, Mr. C. CASE, aged eighty-four. His long life was characterised by the influence of the Gospel, and in the experience of its support and consolation he finished his course.

January 3, after a protracted illness, ELIZABETH, wife of Mr. RICHARD PUGH, Ironmonger, Newtown, Montgomeryshire, in her forty-first year. Her end was peace.

January 4, at the residence of her son, Southend, Essex, Mrs. ANN PAYNE, relict of the late Rev. JAMES PAYNE, formerly of Ipswich, Suffolk, and afterwards of Ashford, Kent, aged sixty-nine.

January 5, at his residence, near Dublin, Lord PLUNKETT, in his eighty-ninth year.

January 5, at Brighton, H. GUNNING, Esq., late of Cambridge, in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

January 5, suddenly, at the house of her son, Rev. G. B. JOHNSON, Darwin, Lancashire, aged seventy-one years, ELIZABETH JOHNSON, widow of the late Mr. C. B. JOHNSON, Mendham, Norfolk.

January 6, in his fifty-eighth year, at Broadway, Worcester-shire, Rev. T. ROGERS, minister of the Congregational Church in that place.

January 6, at his residence, Chardleigh-green, near Chard, in the sixty-fourth year of his age, SAMUEL BROWN, Esq.

January 6, at Grove House, Upper Holloway, in her seventy-seventh year, Mrs. GUNNEY, widow of the late Mr. J. GUNNEY.

January 7, Mr. J. WARD, builder, of Jewin-street, Aldersgate, and River-lane, Islington, member of the Court of Common Council.

January 8, at his seat Bodebury-park, Kent, aged eighty-six, General Viscount BEECHER, G.C.B., G.C.S., K.T.S., K.S.F., K.S.H.

January 8, at Stoke Newington, in the faith and hope of the Gospel, after having served his generation, Mr. W. G. POCOCK, for many years a warm advocate of Anti-State-Church principles, and a willing worker in the ranks of Church or State reformers. The locality has in him sustained irreparable loss.

January 8, aged twenty-two, of pulmonary consumption, Mr. L. THOMAS, the eldest son of Mr. T. THOMAS, President of the Baptist College, Pontypool.

January 9, at Peckham, Surrey, the Rev. W. B. COLLYER, D.D., &c., in the seventy-third year of his age, and the fifty-fourth of his ministry at Hanover Chapel, Peckham.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

During the last few days Consols have been very unsteady. On Saturday, there was a considerable decline. On Monday, the report that the mission of the Prince de Chimay from the King of the Belgians to the Emperor of the French is connected with the presentation of pacific proposals from the Czar, produced a favourable reaction, and the closing prices showed an advance of an eighth upon those of Saturday. To-day there has also been a slight improvement. Money is moderately easy.

The imports of specie during the week have been very large, amounting altogether to about 1,050,000*l.*, of which one-fourth is silver and the rest gold. This total includes the sum of 895,000*l.* brought yesterday from Australia, by the Francis Henty and the Walter Hood. The reported exports have been under 300,000*l.*, of which the greater part consisted of silver for the East.

The Foreign Market has not been active. On Monday, Russian Stock fell 3 per cent., Mexican, Chilian, and Spanish, also were severally affected by sales, which were freely pressed in the course of the day. To-day Russian Stock has again fallen one to two per cent. Sardinian Bonds were also two per cent. lower. Spanish Three per Cents. Active were 15*s.* lower. Mexican Stock advanced to 22½, after bargains at 22½. Portuguese Four per Cents. were very heavy, at the lower price of 88½ ex div.

In the Share Market business was brisker, there being a strong disposition towards heavy investments in some of the principal Stocks. Caledonians were 1 per cent. higher than the closing price last night. East Lancashire 30*s.* higher. Great Western firmer at 81½, 81½. Lancashire and Yorkshire, 63½. Brightons stand at 96; North-Westerns at 101½. Midlands, 10*s.* to 15*s.* higher, bargains having taken place at 60½. North British are also 15*s.* higher. South-Eastern after some fluctuations, have advanced to 59½, and York and North Midlands have gone up to 45½. Belgian Shares were dealt in at better prices. Paris and Lyons were 10*s.* higher. Great Western of Canada, after reaching 19 yesterday, have fallen back again to 18½, or 2*l.* dis. Grand Trunk of Canada were sold to-day at 3½ dis.

The few dealings in Gold Mine Shares were almost entirely confined to Californian companies. The bargains in Bank Shares comprised Australian, at 74; Union of Australia, 73; Oriental, 44; British North American, 64; Australian Agricultural Company rose to 41½; Peel Rivers to par; Australian Royal Mail, 8½; S. A. Land, 36½ ex div.; Crystal Palace, 1½ prem.

The Board of Trade returns for the month ending Dec. 5, afford satisfactory evidence of the prosperous state of both the import and export trade of the country, at the same time that they indicate the effects produced by the dissensions in the manufacturing districts. The total value of the exports of our domestic produce and manufactures for the first eleven months of 1853 shows an increase over the total for the corresponding period of 1852 of 15,504,381*l.*, and of 1851 of 17,470,248*l.* An increase in the shipments is shown, of beer, candles, coal, cotton manufactures and cotton yarn, earthenware, glass, leather, and linen manufactures, metals, oils, salt, soap, refined sugar, and woollen manufactures, whilst the estimated value of the exports indicates a further rise in prices to our advantage. The articles which exhibit a falling off are butter, cheese, linen yarn, silk, both thrown and yarn, and sheep's wool. The import trade appears to have been active. An increase in the arrivals is

shown in live animals, bark, cocoa, corn of all kinds (with the exception of Indian corn), flour and Indian corn-meal, cotton manufacturers and cotton yarn, &c. As regards the quantities of foreign and colonial produce and manufactures taken for home consumption, there is shown a falling off in coffee, Indian corn, leather manufactures, spices, spirits, and molasses, but other articles generally exhibit an increase. The accounts relating to navigation show an increase in the number and tonnage of vessels employed in the foreign trade both inwards and outwards, a decrease in the tonnage of our coasters inwards, but an increase in the tonnage of those which cleared outwards.

The accounts from the manufacturing towns for the past week describe a general derangement of business from the state of the weather. In Lancashire, manufacturing operations were impeded by the uncertainty as to the receipt of supplies, both of raw material and fuel. Transactions in the markets have been limited, but on the whole prices have been maintained, although the certainty of a coming war tends to create reserve. At Birmingham, everything indicates uninterrupted prosperity, and the foreign demand, both American and European, for goods of all kinds continues to realise the best anticipations. The Nottingham accounts mention a good inquiry for hosiery, and an expectation of improvement in the lace trade. In the woollen districts also prices are firm and prospects encouraging. From all parts of the kingdom the most remarkable feature of the various advices is the confidence felt in the powerlessness of Russia to inflict any permanent damage on the commerce and civilisation of the world, and the consequent absence of the slightest disposition to panic. Proper caution is displayed, but the freedom from speculation so long noticeable has apparently placed the trade of the country beyond the reach of anarchists in any quarter.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the past week show an increase. They have comprised altogether six vessels—two for Adelaide, with an aggregate burden of 1,209 tons; two to Port Philip, with an aggregate burden of 704 tons; one to Sydney, of 665 tons; and one to Launceston, of 495 tons. Their total capacity was consequently 3,078 tons. The rates of freight continue to be supported with steadiness.

In the general business of the port of London there has been increased activity during the past week. The number of vessels reported inward was 162, being an increase of 64 over that of the previous week. Still there are many vessels overdue, from the unfavourable state of the wind and weather. The quantity of grain received was not large, but the week has been remarkable for the very heavy quantity of American flour which has come to hand. The total of grain reported is 34,996 quarter, including 21,885 quarters of wheat. Of flour there were reported 49,057 barrels and 1,486 sacks; of rice, 81 tierces and 2,862 bags; of sugar, 1,502 hogsheads, 452 casks, and 50,424 bags; of tea, 2,900 packages; and of tallow, 1,708 casks. The number of vessels cleared outward was seventy-four, being four less than in the previous week. Of those fifteen were in ballast, and six, as above stated, for the Australian colonies.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday.	Satur.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Cons.	shut	shut	92½ xd	92½ xd	92½ xd	92½ xd
Cons. for Acct.	93½ xd	93½ xd	93 xd	92½ xd	92½ xd	92½ xd
3 per Cent. Red.	93½	93½	93½	92½	92½	92½
New 3½ per Ct.						
Annuities...	94½	94½	94½	93½	93½	93½
India Stock...	shut	shut	shut			
Bank Stock...	215 17		215 17	217 19	219	219 18
Excheq. Bills	10 pm.	9 pm.	10 pm.	9 pm.	9 pm.	10 pm.
India Bonds...	—	par	3 pm.	4 pm.	4 pm.	4 pm.
L. Annuities	5½	5½	—	5½	5½	5½

THE REVENUE.

An Abstract of the Net Produce of the Revenue of Great Britain in the Years and Quarters ended Jan. 5, 1853 and 1854, showing the Increase or Decrease thereof.

	YEAR ENDED JAN. 5.			
	1853.	1854.	Increase	Decrease
Customs	18,695,382	18,978,223	282,841	..
Excise	13,356,981	13,629,103	272,122	..
Stamps	6,287,261	6,500,988	213,727	..
Taxes	3,377,843	3,153,868	..	223,975
Property Tax	5,599,637	5,560,196	50,559	..
Post-office	1,022,000	1,104,000	..	18,000
Crown Lands	200,000	402,888	142,888	..
Miscellaneous	293,729	176,375	..	17,354
Imprest Money, &c.	634,063	879,089	245,026	..
Repayments of Advncs.	1,031,297	1,399,388	368,091	..
Total Income	50,468,193	51,784,118	1,315,925	259,329
Deduct Decrease	..	..	..	..
Increase on the Year	..	..	..	..

	QUARTER ENDED JAN. 5.			
	1853.	1854.	Increase	Decrease
Customs	4,541,384	4,444,578	..	96,806
Excise	3,539,646	3,425,676	..	113,970
Stamps	1,615,029	1,539,928	..	75,101
Taxes	1,419,873	1,402,690	..	17,183
Property Tax	468,238	414,888	..	53,350
Post-office	272,000	335,000	63,000	..
Crown Lands	80,000	80,000	..	..
Miscellaneous	32,000	26,121	..	5,879
Imprest Money, &c.	142,938	279,477	136,539	..
Repayments of Advncs.	491,995	361,702	..	130,293
Total Income	12,603,111	12,310,060	199,589	492,590
Deduct Increase	..	..	..	199,589
Decrease on the Quarter	..	..	..	293,051

Bank of England.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the Week ending on Saturday, the 31st day of December, 1853.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.		BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued	£29,180,080	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	2,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	15,180,080
		Silver Bullion	—
	£29,180,080		£29,180,080
Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities (including Dead Weight Annuity)	£15,044,330
Reserve	3,218,826	Other Securities	17,575,123
Public Deposits	11,409,933	Notes	8,102,220
Other Deposits	11,041,049	Gold and Silver Coin	672,819
Seven Day and other Bills	1,172,684		
	£41,395,492		£41,395,492

January 5, 1854.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Markets.

CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE.

MONDAY.—There were short fresh arrivals of wheat by land carriage samples from Essex and Kent for this day's market, with a fair quantity of barley, beans, and peas from all the near counties; the fresh arrivals of English oats were scanty, those of Scotch good, and of Irish liberal. The imports of foreign wheat have been to a fair extent, with a few cargoes of barley and oats, and the arrivals of flour from America somewhat extensive. The severity of the weather has deranged the trade in English wheat, and the land carriage samples are a week out of course; the few shown to-day were taken off at 5*s.* per quarter over the currency of last Monday. The business transacted in foreign wheat was to a fair extent, and the rates obtained were 5*s.* per quarter over those of last Monday. Town-made flour was put up by the majority of the millers to 7*s.* per sack; there has been a ready sale for country marks, and the prices paid were 3*s.* per sack over those of last Monday, whilst the best brands of American were 2*s.* per barrel dearer. Malt barley realised fully former rates, with a moderate sale; other sorts were fully as dear. The large brewers buy malt sparingly, but prices are well supported. Beans were in good request at 1*s.* to 2*s.* per quarter more money. There was a fair sale for peas at 2*s.* per quarter advance. Good old oats have been taken off to a fair extent, at 1*s.* per quarter over previous rates, but the new Irish, of which there are more on sale than of late, were unchanged. Linseed continues very dear, and is held with much firmness. There is not much passing in rapeseed, but no change to quote.

CURRENT PRICES OF GRAIN AND FLOUR.

	Per Imp. Qr.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat, Essex, Kent, and Suffolk red, New 77	88	Old	82	88	
" Ditto ditto ditto white, ditto 78	95	Ditto	82	92	
" Norfolk and Lincoln red, ditto 78	88	White	78	90	
" Cambridgeshire .. ditto, ditto 76	87	Ditto	78	90	
" Irish .. ditto, ditto 0	0	Ditto	0	0	
Rye, old ..	47	New	47	48	Brank
Barley, grinding	37	Distilling	41	44	Malt
Malt, brown ..	58	Pale	63	73	Ware
Beans, tick new & old 44	48	Harrow	50	56	Pigeon
" Long-pods	42	Windsors	40	48	Green
Peas, grey ..	46	Maple	50	53	White
Oats, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, feed	28	31	Poland	31	33
" Scotch (Angus) ..	32	34	Potato	35	36
" Irish, white ..	27	32	Black	27	29
Town-made Flour	70	75	Norfolk and Stockton	63	64
Essex and Kent ..	70	72	Irish	64	66

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

FOR THE LAST SIX WEEKS.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas
WEEK ENDING:—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Nov. 26	72 0	41 9	25 0	43 7	50 11	54 9
Dec. 3	72 7	40 9	25 0	43 7	50 11	54 9
Dec. 10	71 11	39 9	25 4	43 8	50 6	51 6
Dec. 17	70 9	38 9	25 4	44 4	48 10	51 13
Dec. 24	70 0	37 11	25 0	44 4	46 10	49 0
Dec. 31	73 0	39 4	25 6	47 5	46 0	50 6
Six weeks	71 9	39 8	25 6	44 5	49 2	51 10
Last year	42 5	30 5	18 7	35 4	32 0	32 0
Dates	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0

COMPARATIVE PRICES AND QUANTITIES OF GRAIN.

	AVERAGES FROM LAST FRIDAY		AVERAGES FROM THE CORNER	
	Evening's Gazette.	Evening's Gazette.	Evening's Gazette.	Evening's Gazette.
Wheat	76,785	73 0	Wheat	109,845
Barley	102,471	89 4	Barley	94,642
Oats	21,738	25 6	Oats	24,706
Rye	75	47 5	Rye	86
Beans	5,737	46 0	Beans	5,889
Peas	1,906	50 3	Peas	2,558

PRICE OF BREAD.

The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 11*d.* to 11½*d.* of household ditto 10*d.* to 10½*d.* per 4*lb.* loaf.

PRICE OF SEEDS, &c.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Turnip, white, new,			22	0	24	0			
per bush.									
Do Swede			19	0	21	0			
Mustard, Brown, old			12	0	14	0			
— White new			13	0	16	0			
Tares new winter			8	0	9	0			
Spring			0	0	0	0			
Canary new, per qr.			54	0	60	0			
Cinque Foin			34	0	36	0			
Rye Grass			28	0	32	0			
Ditto Italian			32	0	34	0			
Rape Cakes, per ton	6	l.	10	s.	7	d.			
Rapeseed, per last	30	l.	0	s.	32	d.			
Clover, Red Eng. cwt.			58	0	58	0			
— Foreign			54	0	80	0			
— White			56	0	73	0			
— White			64	0	96	0			
Trefoil			28	0	35	0			
Carraway			43	0	48	0			
Coriander new			17	0	18	0			
Hempseed, per qr.			42	0	44	0			
Linseed, Crushing			50	0	56	0			
— Sowing			60	0	62	0			
				</					

SMITHFIELD MARKET.

MONDAY.—The show of foreign stock in to-day's market was very moderate. Amongst it were about sixty oxen from Spain, in fair average condition. With home-fed beasts we were rather scantily supplied, owing to the non-arrival of several cattle trains from various quarters, caused by the slippery state of the rails. The attendance of buyers was good, and the beef trade ruled steady, at an advance in the prices obtained on Monday last of 2*d.* per 8*lb.* The primest Scots readily produced 5*s.* per 8*lb.* From the northern counties we received 1,000 short-horns; from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, 1,100 Scots and shorthorns; and from other parts of England 400 of various breeds. Scarcely any beasts were on offer from Scotland, the steamer, with several dead animals on board, having put into Leith, in a disabled state. The show of sheep was seasonably good, but numbers of them were suffering from rot. For all breeds we experienced a very dull inquiry, and last week's prices were barely supported. The extreme value of the best old Downs was 5*s.* 4*d.* per 8*lb.* From their scarcity prime small calves were dearer, the top quotations having advanced to 5*s.* 6*d.* per 8*lb.* From their scarcity prime small calves were dearer, the top quotations having advanced to 5*s.* 6*d.* per 8*lb.*, but other kinds of real were dull and drooping. There was a moderate sale for pigs, at last week's quotations.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts, 3 G to 3 8	3 8	Pr. coarse woolled 4 8 to 4 10	4 8	4 10
Second quality ..	3 10	4 4	Prime Southdown 5 0	5 4
Prime large oxen, 4 6	4 8	Lge. coarse calves 3 6	4 4	4 4
Prime Scots, &c., 4 10	5 0	Prime small ..	4 6	5 6
Coarse inf. sheep, 3 4	3 8	Large hogs ..	3 6	4 2
Second quality ..	3 10	4 6	Neat sm. porkers 4 4	4 10

Suckling calves, 2*s.* to 2*s.* 8*d.*; Quarter-old store-pigs, 2*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* each

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.

MONDAY.—Since our last report the arrival of country-killed meat has been comparatively small, yet these markets are well supplied. Although the business doing is not so extensive, prices are very firm.

Per 6lb by the carcass.

Inferior beef	3s 6d to 3s 4d	Inf. mutton	3s 4d to 3s 10d
Middling ditto	3s 6d to 3s 10d	Middling ditto	4s 0d to 4s 6d
Prime ditto	4s 0d to 4s 2d	Prime ditto	4s 8d to 4s 10d
Do. small do.	4s 2d to 4s 4d	Veal	4s 0d to 5s 0d
Large pork	3s 6d to 4s 4d	Small pork	4s 6d to 5s 0d

PROVISION MARKET.

MONDAY.—There is not much bacon offering; prices of Irish are well supported; 62s per cwt is now demanded free on board, and for choice singed sides that price has been obtained. American middles are quiet at 42s for old, and 46s to 48s for new. The stock in this market is in a very limited compass, and any weight in arrivals would probably cause a decline. The Irish agents have been more inclined to hold butter than to sell, although the prices are considerably advanced; the supplies into the Irish markets are very small. Quotations from Cork are 108s first, 104s second, and 102s third; these rates are, however, in advance of the prices on the spot, and in anticipation of being attained on arrival of the vessels. Imports of foreign are suspended by the severity of the weather, the continental ports being all closed by the frost. Cheese must be considered dearer, and foreign qualities are scarce. As regards provisions there is nothing passing in beef, holders however do not give way. Sales of prime mutton have been made at 65s; and there is rather more doing in it.

COLONIAL MARKETS.—TUESDAY, JAN. 10.

SHOPS.—The public sales have been large to-day, yet they have gone off steadily at the full prices of last week; and Barbadoes, in public sale, being of a description wanted by the grocers, sold in many instances at 1s advance; in all 620 hhds. West India sold; 5,400 bags of Manilla offered in public sale; 4,000 sold, 28s 6d to 37s; 11,300 bags of Bengal offered, 10,000 sold, Manilla sort, 33s 6d to 37s 6d; grainy, 37s to 42s; Benares, 38s to 39s 6d; 3,800 bags Madras offered, and 2,000 sold (rather heavily), 30s to 34s; and 800 bags Penang, also in public sale, 29s 6d to 37s. The refined market firm, at last week's prices, grocery lumps, 45s 6d to 50s.

CORR.—300 casks plantation Ceylon were offered in public sale, and sold steadily at the full prices of last week, 54s to 63s 6d; native Ceylon quoted 49s 6d; 450 bales Mocha were offered and chiefly bought in, 55s to 81s 6d; 100 casks Tellicherry sold, 54s to 58s 6d.

TEA.—The market continues inactive; public sales are declared for Thursday.

SALT.—1,400 bags were offered and chiefly sold. Refraction 11s 8d; refraction 9s, bought in, 32s; this is 6d advance on private contract prices, and is 6d on last week's currency.

RICE.—The market is firm at previous prices, with a fair demand.

CORR.—No sales of importance reported to-day.

INDIGO.—3,900 chests are declared for the next quarterly sale, Feb. 7.

HEMP AND FLAX.—The market is not so active to-day for Russian produce.

TALLOW.—The same prices as yesterday are quoted: 62s on the spot; 63s March and April delivery.

OLIVE.—33s, 43s; 11s 6d, 34s 10s; rapeseed, foreign, refined, 49s to 50s; brown, 46s 10s.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET.

MONDAY.—Our market exhibited a somewhat improved demand, but prices remain without alteration.

New Mid and East Kent pockets	14 0 to 17 12
Weald of Kent	10 5 to 12 12
Sussex	10 0 to 12 0
Foreign	7 0 to 9 0

LONDON WOOL MARKET.

MONDAY.—Although public sales of from 3,000 to 4,000 bales East India, China, and other low wools, are appointed to take place on the 13th and 14th inst., there is a better feeling in the demand for English wools, and the value of fine qualities has an upward tendency. In all quarters the stocks are very tight, and a good business is looked forward to. The imports of wool into London last week were large, being 5,130 bales. Of this quantity 1,686 were from the Cape of Good Hope, 1,929 from Sydney, 434 from South Australia, 360 from New Zealand, 371 from Taganrog, and the rest from Buenos Ayres, Peru, &c.

BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS POTATO MARKETS.

MONDAY.—During the past week there have been very few arrivals coastwise, and none by rail; owing to the heavy falls of snow, the streets of London since Tuesday have been more obstructed, and business almost at a stand. The following are this day's quotations: York regents, 130s to 160s; East Lothian ditto, 130s to 150s; ditto reds, 110s to 130s; Forfarshire regents, 130s to 150s; Perthshire ditto, 110s to 130s; Fifeshire ditto, 110s to 130s; reds and cups, 100s to 115s; Rhensish, 100s to 110s; Norway and Swedish, 70s to 80s.

THE TALLOW TRADE.

MONDAY.—A good business is still passing in our market, and prices are again higher. To-day P.Y.C. on the spot is quoted at 60s to 60s 6d for February, and 61s to 61s 6d from April to June. Town tallow is scarce, and worth 58s 6d per cwt net cash.

PARTICULARS.

	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.
Stock	44,552	52,583	61,246	46,676	43,191
Price of Yellow Candles	39s 0d	37s 3d	36s 9d	46s 9d	60s 0d
Delivery last week	2518	2759	2313	1787	1326
Ditto from the 1st of June	61233	66835	67555	63963	65008
Arrived last week	571	4670	1583	1278	2261
Ditto from the 1st of June	89215	87950	92267	70011	84884
Price of Town Tallow	41s 0d	39s 6d	49s 6d	47s 9d	61s 0d

FLAX.

Fine, 75s to 80s; good, 68s to 72s; good middling, 55s to 66s; middling, 48s to 54s; mid, 0s to 0s; coarse, 40s to 45s per cwt.

SUGAR, COFFEE, COCOA, SPICE.

SUGAR.	S. d.	S. d.	COCOA.	S. d.	S. d.
Lumps (brown)	45 0	45 6	Trinidad	32 0	30 0
Grocery	46 0	48 6	Grenada	30 0	34 0
Molasses	17 0	18 0	St Lucia	28 0	33 0
Jamaica (fine)	17 0	18 0	Bahia	26 0	27 0
Demerara (fine)	17 0	18 0			
COFFEE.			SPICES.		
Jamaica	68 0	98 0	Cinnamon (per lb)	1 0	2 3
Low Middling	54 0	67 0	Cloves (Amboyne)	0 7	0 8
Ordinary	46 0	48 0	Ditto (Bourbon)	0 6	0 6
Demerara and Ber-			Mace	2 4	3 2
rice Good Mid.	62 0	70 0	Nutmegs	2 0	4 10
Good and fine ord.	45 0	55 0	Pepper (Cayenne)	0 8	1 4
Ord and Broken	38 0	46 0	Pimento (Jam.)	0 6	0 6
Dominica, Mid.	54 0	60 0	Ginger (J.) white	40 0	85 0
Gd. ord to low mid	47 0	53 0	Fine large	95 0	220 0
St. Domingo	42 0	46 0	Barbadoes	40 0	100 0
Mocha	60 0	95 0	East India	24 0	55 0

OILS.

Linseed, 32s 6d per cwt.; Rapeseed, English refined 46s to 48s 0d; do foreign, 44s; Gallipoli, per ton, 60l to 62l; Spanish 60l to 62l; Sperm, 84l to 86l; do bagged, 87l; South Sea, 36l to 42l; Seal, pale, 39l to 40l; do coloured, 33l to 38l; Cod, 36l to 37l 0s; Cocoa nut 21s 5d to 21s 6d; Palm, 21s 0d to 21s 0d.

BUTTER, CHEESE, BACON, AND HAMS.

IRISH BUTTER.	S. d.	Prime Mess	S. d.
Carlton per cwt.	100 10s	New	85 0
Clonmel	91 9s	Bacon Mess	84 0
Cork	94 9s	Inferior Quality	70 0
Limerick	92 9s	Scotch, small	0 0
Waterford	94 9s	Second sizes	0 0
Dublin	92 9s	American	0 0
Enniscorthy	106 10s		
CHEESE.	S. d.		S. d.
Friesland, per cwt.	104 10s	Cheshire	60 7s
Holland	96 10s	Derby	62 6s
Holstein	94 10s	Double Wiltshire	48 7s
		Thin ditto	44 7s
BEEF.		Berkley	56 6s
Irish, prime India	140 0	BACON—Waterford	60 6s
Prime Mess	105 0	Limerick	58 0s
Second Mess	90 0	HAMS—York	58 0s
American	78 9s	Cumberland	58 0s
		Irish	58 0s
PORK.		American	0 0
Irish, prime India	145 0		
New	150 0		

HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS.

Market Hides, per lb	d.	d.	Polled Sheep	S. d.	S. d.
Middling	3 2	3 4	Downs	4 4	5 4
Ordinary	2 2	2 4	Half-breds	5 2	7 6
Calf Skins	2s 0d to 4s 6d		Kents	5 2	7 0
Horse Hides, each 6s 0d to 6s 6d			Shearlings	0 0	0 0

PRICES OF SOAP.

Yellow soap	S. d.	S. d.	Town tallow	S. d.	S. d.
Mottled do	36 0 to 46 0		Melted stuff	43 6	0 0
Curd do	52 0 to 58 0		Rough do	38 6	0 0
Tallow greaves, 18s; and good dregs, 8s 0d per cwt; rough fat average 3s 2d per 6lbs.					

LEATHER (per lb).

Crop hides, 20 40lb	d.	d.	German Horse Hides	S. d.	S. d.
Ditto, 40 50lb	12 15	12 15	Spanish Horse Hides	9 13	9 13
Ditto, 50 60lb	12 15	12 15	Calf Skins, (20 40lb do)	14 19	14 19
Bull Hides	12 14	12 14	Ditto, 40 50lb	15 20	15 20
Wet Hides	0 0	0 0	Ditto, 50 60lb	16 20	16 20
English Butts	14 17	14 17	Ditto, 70 100lb	18 20	18 20
Foreign Butts	13 15	13 15	Large Seal Skins	0 0	0 0
Foreign Hides	13 15	13 15	Ditto Small	0 0	0 0
Dressing Hides	13 15	13 15	Kips	8 18	8 18
Ditto Shaved	14 16	14 16	Bells	9 13	9 13
Best Saddlers' Hides	14 16	14 16	Bells	9 13	9 13
English Horse Hides	9 11	9 11	Shoulders	12 14	12 14

POULTRY.

Turkeys	S. d.	S. d.	Grouse (each)	S. d.	S. d.
Geese	4 6 to 6 6		Surrey Fowls (cpl)	5 0	9 0
Ducks	2 3 to 3 3		Surrey Chicks	3 0	5 0
Game Rabbits	1 3 to 1 9		Barndoor Fowls	3 6	6 0
Wild	0 10 to 1 0		Eggs, Eng. (120)	10 6	12 0
Pigeons	0 6 to 0 9		Eggs, French	9 6	10 0

HAY MARKETS.

SMITHFIELD.—Fine upland meadow and rye grass hay 100s 110s, inferior 80s 90s, superior clover 124s 126s, inferior 95s 100s, straw 32s 42s per load of 36 trusses.

REGENCY-PARK.—Fine upland meadow and rye grass hay 112s 114s, inferior 90s 90s, superior clover 118s 120s, inferior 95s 100s, straw 34s 44s per load of 36 trusses.

PORTMAN.—New meadow hay 75s 80s, inferior 65s 70s old 100s 105s, new clover 95s 100s, inferior 80s 90s, old 110s 115s wheat straw 36s 40s per load of 36 trusses.

COAL MARKET.—MONDAY.

(PRICE OF COALS PER TON AT THE CLOSE OF THE MARKET.)

Hasting's West Hartley	S. d.	Hough Hall	S. d.
Burnhope	0 0	Killingworth East	26 6
Carr's Hartley	0 0	Lambton	26 0
Cookson's Hartley	0 0	Lawson	31 6
Davison's Hartley	0 0	Plummer	35 0
Holywell	0 0	Pensher	34 0
Taffwell Moor	27 0	Ramsay's Canal	0 0
Walls End	0 0	Richmond	0 0
Braddell	0 0	Stewart's	0 0
Hetton	0 0	Hartlepool	0 0
Eden Main	35 0	Kellie	38 0
Hawthorn	35 0	Tees	0 0
South Hartlepool	35 0	Whitwell	0 0
Ships at market			16
Sold			11

Railway Shares.

THE QUOTATIONS GIVE THE ACTUAL PRICE, WITHOUT REFERENCE TO PREMIUM OR DISCOUNT, AND AMOUNT PAID UP.

Share.	Paid.	Names of Lines.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
50	50	Aberdeen ..	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2
20	20	Birmingham & Oxford Junc.	97	96	96
00	92	Bristol and Exeter ..	97	96	96
St. 100	100	Buckinghamshire ..	51 1/2	52	52 1/2
St. 50	50	Caledonian ..	15	15	15 1/2
50	50	Chester and Holyhead ..	45	45	45
50	45	Dublin and Belfast Junction ..	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2
St. 20	20	Eastern Counties ..	14 1/2	14 1/2	14 1/2
10	10	Ditto, New Prov. 6 per cent. ..	63	63	63
St. 100	100	East Lancashire ..	63	63	63
St. 100	100	East Lincolnshire, 6 per cent. ..	83 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2
St. 50	50	Edinburgh and Glasgow ..	64	63	63
St. 100	100	Great Northern ..	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2
100	100	Great North of England ..	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2
100	100	Great Western ..	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2
17	15	Ditto New, 4 1/2 ..	111	111	111
50	50	Hull and Selby ..	55 1/2	55 1/2	55 1/2
25	25	Ditto Half Shares ..	95	95	95
50	50	Leamington and Cardigan ..	63	63 1/2	63 1/2
100	98	Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	63	63 1/2	63 1/2
25	23 1/2	Ditto Quarter Shares ..	13	13	13
50	all	Leeds Northern ..	73	73	73
11 1/2	11 1/2	London and Blackwall ..	97	97	97
St. 100	100	London, Brighton, & S. Coast ..	101 1/2	101 1/2	101 1/2
12 1/2	12 1/2	London and Greenwich ..	76	76	76
St. 100	100	London and North-Western ..	76	76	76
St. 100	100	London and South-Western ..	38	38	38
50	42 1/2	New Ditto, 250 ..	31	31	31
40	34	New Ditto, 240 ..	60 1/2	60 1/2	60 1/2
St. 100	100	Midland ..	35	35	35
St. 100	100	Ditto Birmingham & Derby ..	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2
St. 100	100	Ditto Bristol & Birm. 6 per cent ..	30	30	30
St. 100	100	Norfolk ..	30	30	30
St. 100	100	North British ..	14 1/2	14 1/2	14 1/2
50	50	North Staffordshire ..	30	30	30
50	50	Oxford, Worcester, & Wolver ..	15	15	15
25	25	Preston and Wye ..	93	93	93
15	15	Reading, Guild, and Reigate ..	15	15	15
St. 100	100	Scottish Central ..	59 1/2	59 1/2	59 1/2
50	50	South Devon ..	33	33	33
St. 100	100	South Eastern ..	60	60	60
50	50	South Wales ..	63	63	63
St. 100	100	York, Newcastle, & Berwick ..	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2
25	20	York & Newcastle Extension ..	45	45	45
25	100	York and North Midland ..	25	25	25
25	25	Ditto Extension ..	33	33	33
16	16	Northern of France ..	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2
20	10	Paris and Lyons ..	39	39	39
20	20	Paris and Rouen ..	19	19	19
20	20	Rouen and Havre ..	19	19	19

The Gazette.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6.

BANKRUPTS.

CHARLES RAYMOND SMITH, Gloucester-place, New-road, stationary. Sols., Messrs. Taylor and Collinson, Great James-street.

JOSEPH RAYNES, Nottingham, lace-maker. Sols., Messrs. Read and Co., Friday-street, Chappell.

JOHN TILBURY, Jun., Gloucester-place, New-road, coach maker. Sols., Messrs. Bicknell, Connaught-terrace, Edgware-road.

GEORGE WREN LE GRAND, Lambeth-walk, Surrey, grocer. Sols., Messrs. Weir and Smith, Cooper's Hall, Basinghall-street.

THOMAS WILKINSON, Cambridge-wharf, Pimlico, coal merchant. Sols., Messrs. Lavrance and Co., Old Jewry-chambers.

JAMES EVANS and GEORGE DAVEY, Britton Ferry Iron Works, Glamorganshire, ironmasters. Sols., Messrs. Llewellyn and Randall, Heath

Temple, Bath, innholders—F. and W. Spencer, Horselydown and Duke-street, Southwark, wharfingers—J. Pearson and T. Royston, Leeds, potash manufacturers—Wymark and Co., Philpot-lane, colliery agents—A. L. Elder and Co., Adelaide, South Australia; and G. Elder and Sons, Kircaldy, general merchants—The Union Bank of Australia; as far as regards A. J. D. Brown.

Advertisements.

TO the EARL of ABERDEEN.

The accompanying Address, not noticed in the printed report of the Conference, is respectfully submitted to the serious consideration of Lord Aberdeen and his Cabinet colleagues in their character of Christian Statesmen,

January 8, 1854.

By their friend,
JOHN HARRIS.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE EDINBURGH PEACE CONFERENCE.

GENTLEMEN.—Believing it quite unnecessary to express my adhesion to the grand principles you meet to advocate, after a pretty liberal distribution* of books and papers on the subject, amongst those most nearly connected with the press in various parts of Scotland, I have only to suggest two subjects for consideration. The first is, if it may not be advisable to issue a Circular Address to the Christian Ladies of Great Britain, urging them to exert their gentle and persuasive influence with the turbulent Lords of Creation, whether Husbands, Relatives, Friends, or Neighbours, in striving to diffuse a *HEARTFELT Conviction*, that God is in very deed wiser than Man, yea, than the most knowing of men, the most skilful of Diplomats, that He did certainly know what fresh Precepts and Influences were needed to correct the fallen and debased Condition of Mankind, Individually, and *Nationally*, when His own Well-beloved Son, having previously adverted to the Sanctions of an imperfect Law, proclaimed with an emphatic "*But I say unto you*," a sovereign Panacea for some of its most appalling features, in the plain but express Commands, "*Resist not Evil—Love your Enemies; Do good to them that hate you*," &c., extended and amplified to the grand practical Climax,—"Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do even so to them."

The second is, whether it may not be desirable, for some notice to be taken by a competent speaker, or otherwise, of the *unjust and impolitic* measure, adverted to in the following extract from "*The Times*."

"THE CAPE."

"In answer to a question from Sir De L. Evans.
"Mr. PEEL said, that the boundary of the Cape Colony and the boundary of the Queen's dominions were different things—There was a broad belt between them which had been occupied by the Caffres, where the Amatola Mountains were. The struggle had been to dislodge them from that mountain stronghold; and when once removed, it was necessary to take care that they did not resume possession of it. For that reason General Cathcart had made the Amatola Mountains a Crown reserve, and had established fortified posts there. That of course was the Queen's property, and under the shelter of those forts there would be a village or two."

Wishing you much encouragement and abundant success, believe me your warmly-interested coadjutor,
J. H.
Kingston-on-Thames, October 11, 1853.

* Fit for Tat, and Papers connected therewith.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

MRS. TODD'S ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG LADIES is REMOVED from SALISBURY to PERRY-HILL HOUSE, SYDENHAM. The Mansion and Grounds are extensive, elevated, easy of access, and afford every facility. The course of Tuition—English, French, Italian, German, Latin, Natural Philosophy, Music, Drawing in all styles, &c. Objects aimed at,—the union of domestic comfort and school discipline; the highest intellectual and moral culture; qualification, by habits of thoroughness and self-reliance, for the responsibilities of life.

Terms, THIRTY GUINEAS. Full particulars and References by post.

Referees:—A. Pellatt, Esq., M.P.; R. Harris, Esq., late M.P., Leicester; H. Brown, Esq., M.P.; Mrs. Clara L. Balfour; Revs. F. Trevellick, S. J. Davies, J. P. Mursell, Dr. Redford, T. Thomas, Pontypool; and D. Pratt, Esq., London; Revs. A. M. Stalker, J. J. Brown, S. Manning, J. C. Middleditch, T. Winter, and G. H. Davis.

DR. KING'S SARSAPARILLA COCOA.

TO those under a course of Sarsaparilla this COCOA will be found an excellent beverage, instead of tea or coffee (which decidedly excite the nervous system, and prevent medicine, particularly Sarsaparilla, from having its desired effect). Invalids with weak stomachs will receive more benefit from this pure Cocoa than any preparation, being made with true Cocoa Nibs, combined with pure Sarsaparilla, and rendered more palatable.

In Packets, at 1s. 6d. per lb., or 3 lbs. for 4s.
To prevent fraud, HENRY HINES has caused his name to be put upon each packet, and without which none is genuine, and to imitate which is felony.

Sold by all respectable Medicine Vendors in the United Kingdom; and by the proprietor, at his LABORATORY, 10, HUNGERFORD-STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

THE HAIR.—CHURCHER'S TOILET

CREAM imparts richness, softness, and fragrance to the hair, and is, beyond comparison, the cheapest appendage to the toilet ever offered. It is sold in large handsome jars, price One Shilling. Sold by Hairdressers, and by the Proprietor, B. HOVENDEN, 22, King-street, Regent-street, and 57 and 58, Crown-street, Finsbury-square, London.

N.B. R. HOVENDEN is the sole Wholesale Agent for Bache-ker's Columbian Hair-dye.

INFANT DENTITION.

MRS. JOHNSON'S AMERICAN

SOOTHING SYRUP.—This efficacious Remedy has been in general use for upwards of Thirty Years, and has preserved numerous Children from Convulsions arising from painful Dentition. As soon as the syrup is rubbed on the gums the child will be relieved, the gums cooled, and the inflammation reduced. It is as innocent as efficacious, tending to produce the Teeth with ease; and so pleasant that no child will refuse to let its gums be rubbed with it. Parents should be very particular to ask for Johnson's American Soothing Syrup, and to notice that the names of BACLEY and Sons, 95, Farringdon-street, London, (to whom Mrs Johnson has sold the recipe), are on the stamp affixed to each bottle. Price 2s. 9d. per bottle.

MATRIMONIAL INSTITUTION.

(Founded in 1846).—This institution has been established many years, with great success, as a medium for the introduction of parties unknown to each other, who are desirous of forming Matrimonial Alliances, but who, from some cause or other, cannot find partners in their own circle of acquaintance, suitable in position, &c. The strictest honour and secrecy is maintained in every case.—Prospectuses, Application Forms, Rules, and every information, sent free to any name, initials, or address, on receipt of twelve postage stamps.

By order of the Directors,
LAWRENCE GUTHBERT.

49 John-street, Adelphi, London.

FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE IRONS.

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—The largest, as well as the choicest assortment in existence of PALMER'S MAGNUM and other LAMPS, CAMPHINE, ARGAND, SOLAR, and MODERATEUR LAMPS, with all the latest improvements, and of the newest and most *récherché* patterns, in ornate, Bohemian, and plain glass, or papier maché, is at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S, and they are arranged in one large room, so that the patterns, sizes, and sorts can be instantly selected.

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Single or double wicks..... 8½d. per pound.
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Magnums, 3 or 4 wicks..... 9½d. ditto.
English Patent Camphine, in sealed cans..... 5s. 9d. per gallon.
Best Colza Oil..... 4s. ditto.

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Containing 730 Complete Services, each including a Hymn, a Prayer, a Portion of Scripture, and appropriate Reflections, being one for the Morning and Evening of every day in the Year.

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I have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the worth of "Fletcher's Family Devotion." It is admirably adapted to accomplish the sacred purpose for which it is intended. The genial warmth of true spirituality pervades it throughout; and it may safely be recommended, both for the judgment and piety by which it is characterized, to earnest-minded Christians of every denomination. Great as its circulation already is, I should be glad to find it increased, and increasing.

Yours very faithfully,

Henry Hobbes

Parsonage, St. James's, Hampstead-road.

Extract from a letter by the Rev. J. HARRIS, D.D., Author of "*Mamma*."

The conception and arrangement of the work are admirable; and as far as I have had an opportunity of judging, the execution of it equals the plan. I have read various parts of it attentively; and while I have not met with anything which I could wish to have been omitted, most unfeignedly can I say that I have found much calculated to inspire and sustain devotion.

John Harris

Epcom.

I am enabled to speak with propriety and confidence of the real worth and admirable adaptation to usefulness of your work. I have used it much in my own family, and I can truly say that as I advance it grows in my esteem. You have rendered a most important service to Christian households by your labours, and I have no doubt that its circulation will be as extensive as your most sanguine expectations could anticipate.

J. R. Apple

Liverpool.

Letters have also been received from the following Clergymen:—Rev. W. B. COLLYER, D.D., Peckham; Rev. J. MORRISON, D.D., Chelsea; Rev. JAMES PARSONS, York; Rev. SAMUEL RANSOM, Hackney; Rev. A. THOMSON, Coldstream; &c. In addition to which, upwards of One Hundred of the most influential Clergymen of America have testified, by letter, their high commendation of the excellence and great utility of the above-named Work.

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	Fiddle Pattern.	Thread or Brunswick Pattern.	King's Pattern.
Tea Spoons, per dozen.....	18s. ..	26s. ..	32s. ..
Dessert Forks ".....	30s. ..	40s. ..	46s. ..
Dessert Spoons ".....	30s. ..	42s. ..	48s. ..
Table Forks ".....	40s. ..	56s. ..	64s. ..
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Tea and Coffee sets, waiters, candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process.

CHEMICALLY PURE NICKEL NOT PLATED.

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Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen.....	12s. ..	23s. ..	30s. ..
Dessert ditto and ditto.....	10s. ..	21s. ..	25s. ..
Tea ditto.....	8s. ..	11s. ..	12s. ..

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DISHES in every material, in great variety, and of the newest and most *récherché* patterns. Tin Dish-covers, 6s. 6d. the set of six; Block-tin, 12s. 3d. to 28s. 9d., the set of six; elegant modern patterns, 34s. to 58s. 6d. the set; Britannia Metal, with or without Silver Plated Handles, 76s. 6d. to 110s. 6d. the set; Sheffield Plated, £10 to £16 10s. the set; Block-tin Hot-water Dishes, with wells for gravy, 12s. to 30s.; Britannia Metal, 22s. to 77s.; Electro-plated on Nickel, full size, £11 11s.

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15 Carat Gold will be charged and will realize	53s. 1d.
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A chain weighing 2 oz. of 15 Carat Gold is worth, at 53s. 1d. per oz.	5 6 2
Supposing the Workmanship to be	0 0 0
Total	7 6 2

By this arrangement, the purchaser will see at a glance the proportion charged for LABOUR compared with the BULLION and gold chain, and, being always able to realize the one, will have only to decide on the value of the other.

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Particular attention is earnestly requested to the system of granting Annuities and Assurances on *Infants' Lives*, originated by this Company, and now in full operation; by which system, in addition to the general classes of Annuities and Assurances, Parents or Guardians can provide at a small cost for the education, endowment, marriage settlement, and placing out in life of Children; at the same time that should death occur before any given age, the whole of the premiums will be returned.

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CAPITAL, £100,000, in 10,000 Shares of £10 each.
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THE RATES OF PREMIUM are based upon the latest and most approved corrected tables of mortality, and will, therefore, be found lower than those adopted by other and earlier institutions.

POLICIES ARE INDISPENSABLE.

NO CHARGE IS MADE FOR POLICY STAMPS OR MEDICAL FEES.

THE ASSURED ARE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL IN ANY COUNTRY IN EUROPE WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE.

ONE-THIRD OF THE PREMIUMS ON POLICIES OF £500 and upwards is allowed to remain unpaid, and continue as a claim on the Policy.

POLICIES ARE NOT FORFEITED if the Premiums are not paid when due.

LOANS are granted to Policy-holders and others on approved Personal Security, and on every description of Freehold, Leasehold, and Copyhold Property. The advances are made on liberal terms and a Policy of Insurance on the borrower's life to the amount only of the sum borrowed is required.

For the convenience of the WORKING CLASSES, Policies are issued as low as £30, at the same Rates of Premium as larger Policies.

Premiums may be paid quarterly, half-yearly, or annually. The following are the Rates of Premium on the classes of Policies generally taken out:—

WHOLE OF LIFE.

Annual Premium for the Assurance of £100 on the Whole of Life with Profits.

Age.....	20	30	40	50	60
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Premium.	1 18 3	2 7 9	3 3 2	4 10 2	6 18 5

Any other Particulars, or Rates of Premium, required for any contingency, can be obtained of the Agents of the Company, or at the Chief Office.

HUGH BROWN TAPLIN, Secretary.

Chief Office, 25, Cannon-street, London.

INSTITUTED 1831.

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Incorporated by Royal Charters, and Special Act of Parliament.
Head Office—EDINBURGH: 26, St. Andrew-square.

Manager—Robert Christie, Esq.

LONDON: 126, Bishopsgate-street, Cornhill.

GLASGOW: 103, St. Vincent-street.

The SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY is an institution peculiarly adapted to afford Provision for Families. It was established in the year 1831, upon the principle of MUTUAL CONTRIBUTION, the Surplus or Profit being wholly divisible among the members; and the Additions which have been made to Policies at the periodical investigations of the Society afford satisfactory evidence of the prosperity of the Institution, and the great advantages derived by its members. The following Examples exhibit the additions already made:—

	£	s. d.
A Policy for 1,000, opened in 1832, is now increased to	1,508	9 4
" 1,000, " 1836, " "	1,407	18 7
" 1,000, " 1840, " "	1,397	15 7

The Profits are ascertained and divided Triennially amongst Policies of more than five years' duration.

The Annual Revenue is upwards of £14,000.

The Amount of Assurances in force is upwards of £4,000,000 sterling.

The Amount paid to the Representatives of Deceased Members exceeds £200,000 sterling.

The Total Amount of Vested Additions allocated to Policies exceeds £900,000.

The Accumulated Fund is upwards of £760,000.

Loans granted to Members to the extent of the Office value of their Policies.

Copies of the Annual Report, Forms of Proposal, and all information, may be had on application at any of the Society's Offices in town or country.

December, 1853.

W. COOK, Agent, 126, Bishopsgate-street, London.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD-LAND

SOCIETY.

WEEKLY REPORT, January 5, 1854.

	Last Totals.	During the Week.	Present Totals.
Cash received.	£703,572 10 8	£7,103 4 10	£710,675 15 6
Shares issued.	71,575	471	72,146

VALID SHARES DRAWN DURING THE WEEK.

60,878, 49,159, 54,261, 58,550* to 58,553*, 68,302, 61,455*, 59,409, 22,466, 61,729, 13,588, 57,129, 65,340, 70,807, 65,143, 81,307, 54,625, 2,709, 67,569, 33,114, 48,911, 50,574, 29,348, 43,172, 68,349, 41,509, 74,143, 46,909, 48,459, 13,225, 43,410, 65,436* to 65,440*, 7,919, 54,778* to 51,787*, 28,192, 62,478, 39,889, 10,957, 41,071, 51,088, 55,187, 56,441, 4,961* to 4,965*, 58,809, 26,918, 58,274, 35,442, 50,369, 64,419, 37,763, 57,786, 43,811, 21,335, 18,841, 12,313, 27,181, 9,239, 70,729, 33,083, 59,280* to 59,282, 50,570, 77.

* Grouped.

The shares numbered 8,389, 33,557, 38,348, 51,712, 44,414, 19,141, 66,539, 61,131, 7,417, 42,984, 56,112, 6,362, 59,359, 47,411, 57,602, 34,806, 29,791, 60,209, 52,654, and 55,812 were also drawn, but as the subscriptions thereon were in arrear, the holders thereof have lost the benefit of this drawing. Copies of the Prospectus, Rules, and last Annual Report, may be obtained at the office, or by post, gratis.

W. E. WHITTINGHAM, Secretary.

14, Moorgate-street.

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PLUMBE'S SOUTH SEA ARROW.

ROOT.—The general and superior qualities of this article have long established it in public estimation. It is greatly preferred by the most eminent Physicians in London for Invalids, and as the best food for Infants. It also forms a light nutritious diet for general use, and is most valuable in all cases of Diarrhoea, or other disorders of the stomach, therefore, indispensable to Emigrants.

Directions accompany each packet, which bears the signature of A. S. Plumb, 3, Alle-place, Great Alle-street, Whitechapel. Agents appointed in all parts of town and country. Retail in London by Snow, Paternoster-row; Ford, Islington; Morgan, Sloane-street; Williams, Moorgate-street; Medes, Camberwell; Poulton, Hackney; and others.

BEAUTIFUL HAIR, WHISKERS, EYEBROWS, &c.

THE most surprising, efficacious, and elegant preparation ever introduced for the growth of Hair, Whiskers, &c., is

ROSALIE COUPELLES' CRINUTRIAR.

Thousands who were once bald, have now splendid heads of natural hair; and a still greater number who were once utterly destitute of Beard or Whisker, have now these attributes of manhood in attractive luxuriance. Numerous similarly-named imitations have been, from time to time, put forth, accompanied by testimonials, each and all as spurious as the article they represent. Persons who have been thus deceived will find that the *genuine* article has no parallel in the growth, curling, and general improvement of the Hair, Whiskers, &c., as also checking greyness. For children it is indispensable, forming the basis of a beautiful head of hair.

In Pots and Bottles, 2s. each, with full directions, through all Druggists and Perfumers, or sent free on receipt of 24 postage stamps, by ROSALIE COUPELLE, British and Foreign Perfumery Establishment, 35, Ely-place, Holborn-hill, London.

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Mr. Joseph Halley, Cumbernauld: "It surpasses everything of the kind."

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Mr. Henry Lane, care of Mr. Chapman, Golden Lion, Macclesfield-street, City-road, London: "A friend of mine, Mr. Harris, describes its effects as truly astonishing."

Miss Jackson, 14, Lee-street, Chorlton, Manchester: "My hair, in one place had fallen off; it has now grown surprisingly."

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Mr. Yates, hair-dresser, Malton: "The young man has now a good pair of Whiskers. I want two pots for other customers."

The above, and hundreds of others, may be seen at the Establishment.

May be obtained through all Chemists and Perfumers; but should difficulty occur, enclose postage stamps to ROSALIE COUPELLE, BRITISH and FOREIGN PERFUMERY ESTABLISHMENT, Ely-place, Holborn-hill, London.

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